

Sunday
Home

Volume 17, Number 15

Member of the Suburban Newspapers of Greater St. Louis

Sunday, Feb. 21, 1993

Briefly

Fish fry set

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Polish National Catholic Church, 930 Reynolds St., Madison, will sponsor a fish fry from noon to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 24. The menu will include fried cod, cole slaw, macaroni and cheese, and relishes, dessert and coffee and punch. Car-pooling will be available.

Step aerobics

The Granite City Park District is offering new sessions of Step Aerobics at the Lincoln Place Community Center.

One class will be held each Tuesday and Thursday from 6 to 7 p.m. The second will be held Tuesday and Thursday from 7:15 to 8:15 p.m. Classes begin March 2 and registration will begin Feb. 22 in the Wilson Park office.

Fees are \$20 for residents and \$30 for non-residents. The classes will be limited to 20 in each group. Instructor will be Debbie Wiehards. The exercise is based on a stair-climbing concept. For more information, the telephone number is 877-3059.

Dance Monday

The Granite City Seniors Social Club will hold a Valentine dance from 6 to 10 p.m. Monday, Feb. 22, at the Township Hall, 2060 Delmar Ave. A king and queen will be crowned. Prizes, cake and coffee are planned. The Allyn Cats will play dance music starting at 7 p.m.

Inside

Page teams post victories

The Granite City girls basketball team won its third regional title in five years with a 60-53 win over East St. Louis on Thursday night, advancing to Monday's sectional semifinal against Jerseyville. On Friday, the Warrior boys basketball team defeated Southwestern Conference foe Alton 64-60.

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Deaths

Ellis Angle
Jack Simpson
Arlene Phelps
James Pantagis
June Stieriger
Theresa Berger
James Cupepper
Jessie Dunahoe
Ronald Haley
Lottie Geringer

25 years ago

Feb. 26, 1968

An estimated 90 percent of potential voters turned out to defeat a plan to establish Chouteau Village by a vote of 657 to 88. The proposed village would have been taken in the area that is primarily western Mitchell, including Thorngate, St. Thomas, Cedar Park, Molean Acres, and the Burton subdivisions.

Complete network and cable listings

Look for the TV Entertainment book every Thursday in the Granite City Press-Record. For home delivery call 876-2000.

Clinton plan gets support in area

By Susannah Webb

Staff writer

Cautious optimism filled the air at Union Station Thursday afternoon as several thousand people gathered to hear President Bill Clinton deliver his first speech to garner support for his economic plan.

Most of the crowd cheered, applauded and waved small American flags when Clinton took the podium and began his

sales pitch. But when asked their opinions of the deficit reduction package Clinton revealed Thursday and to a joint session of Congress Wednesday night, even the most enthusiastic flag-wavers expressed some concerns.

"I'm an optimist and I would like it to work out, but I don't know if it's going to," said Marilyn Mattione of South County. "More power to him, though."

"The taxes I like because I'm

Energy plan worries, 3A

making under \$30,000," said Pat West of Granite City. "It's good what he's doing in the health-care area, but I have doubts, like with any president."

Lea Hamilton of Belleville was even more enthusiastic.

"I wish I made more so I could give more," she said. "It's a refreshing feeling of change."

Many people interviewed

before, during and after the speech expressed support of Clinton's proposals on spending cuts, health-care reform and even tax hikes, but said they worried that the plan would not survive in Congress.

"I'm real excited about a lot of his proposals, but it'll be interesting to see what happens with it when it goes to Congress. It won't come out the same," said Mary Sullentrop of South County, who pushed her baby on

a stroller through the crowd. "What he says is absolutely true. I shudder to think about our children's future with the deficit, health care."

Pat Giles of Oakville agreed. "I'm optimistic, but I'm concerned about Congress and the old gridlock," she said.

Taxes were on the tip of almost everybody's tongue. Clinton's speech outlined his expected plan to raise taxes in an

(See CLINTON, Page 2A)

Nature teacher Retiree enjoys role at outdoor classroom

By Cheryl K. Friedman

Correspondent

Standing in the living room of his home in east Granite City, George Sotiroff unraveled a scroll of paper that appeared to be more than six feet long. In large red letters were the words, "Thanks, from Niedringhaus."

Dozens of signatures from Niedringhaus Grade School students decorated the perimeter.

"This is what I'm most proud of," said the retired Illinois Power Co. engineer.

Sotiroff was more proud of the banner signed by students than the certificate that lay on a nearby couch.

The certificate recognized him for "outstanding environmental education." That award, called the LEAP award (Local Environmental Action Program), was presented to him in January by Illinois Power.

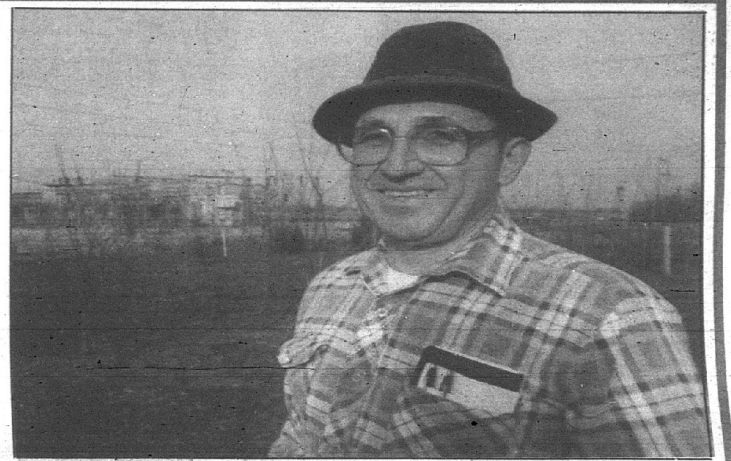
But Sotiroff said no award is greater than the reward he receives when he takes area school children on a tour of the "prairie" he has helped to create behind Lake Grade School. It is his role to teach area youngsters about the natural state of the land.

"What we're trying to do is show people the prairie and what it looked like," Sotiroff said. He said that educating children about the environment at a young age is vital.

You ask a child where an apple comes from, and they say, 'the grocery store,' he said.

"We need to show them the environment and what it was like 100 years ago, and teach the relationship between people, animals and the environment."

(See TEACHER, Page 12A)



(Staff photo by PAM DOEPKE-HURD)

George Sotiroff at the outdoor classroom. In back of him is the tree nursery and in back of that is Illinois Power's substation.

Head Start program may be expanded

ALTON — More than 500 additional Madison County preschoolers could get a shot at Head Start if a proposal by President Bill Clinton is approved.

"Funding has been increasing all along, but it looks like that increase is going to accelerate under Clinton's administration," said Kathy Rodgers, president of Family Service and Visiting Nurse Association, which sponsors the program.

Less than half the children eligible for Head Start are able to attend because of budget constraints.

"We constantly have at least 100 children on a waiting list at each site," Rodgers said. "And there seems to be the highest increase in Alton and Granite City."

The FSNVA runs Head Start sites in Alton, Edwardsville, Granite City, Venice and Caseyville.

Some 550 children are enrolled in the half-day preschool program this year and FSNVA has already been told it will be able to add another 100 starting with the new term in September. The popular federal

backed program prepares disadvantaged youngsters to enter kindergarten. It runs through May each year.

Clinton wants sufficient funding to enroll all eligible children in Head Start by 1999, raising spending by \$785 million next year and by \$3.1 billion in 1997 to more than double the current level.

Rodgers said she is unsure of the impact of the proposals because several new ideas are being discussed.

"We're looking at expanding our home-based program for the rural areas where

it is cost-prohibitive to bus all the children to a central site. And there is some talk about all-day and year-round Head Start," Rodgers said.

Rodgers said FSNVA may also look at expanding in the eastern, rural portion of the county.

"The number of poor children in that part of the county is escalating. There are now more young families with young children in poverty in rural areas," she said.

— From the Alton Telegraph

Cat trap back in use in Madison

By Mike Myers

Staff writer

Madison's cat trap has been certified as humane and is back in use, Health Inspector Grover Brannam told the City Council Tuesday.

It is loaned to residents who have problems with stray cats.

At the Feb. 2 council meeting, answering an inquiry by Alderman Jim Caffrey, Brannam said use of the trap had been discontinued after a complaint to Madison County Animal Control that it was inhumane.

Caffrey said at that meeting that he had talked to the county office about the cat trap and had gotten a different response. He asked that Brannam and Mayor John Bellico get the matter straightened out.

Brannam said he and Bellico met with a representative of the county office and that the trap was approved.

"He said the county has been using the same kind of traps for 20 years and there is nothing wrong with it," Brannam said.

Bellico said that at Brannam's suggestion the city has begun requiring a deposit from persons using the trap.

In response to concerns voiced by Alderman Mike Vrabec about a dog that attacked another dog in the 1700 block of Rhodes Street, the council agreed to have Brannam coordinate with the county to charge the dog's owner under state statutes and

(See TRAP, Page 12A)



(Staff photo by PAM DOEPKE-HURD)

Theater — Madcap Productions, a puppet theater group from Cincinnati, brought its show to Maryville School on Wednesday, delighting students with the tale of a Russian prince. Here the troll kings tells the prince he will marry the princess. See Page 6A for more photos.

Madison back on state Watch List

By Mike Myers

Staff writer

For the fourth time in five years, Madison School District 2 has been placed on the state's Financial Watch List.

The list, established by the State Board of Education, is designed to serve as an early warning to school districts that may be headed for financial trouble.

Schools are placed on the list if their year-end balances in the four major funds — education, operations and maintenance, transportation and working cash — are 5 percent or less of the year's total revenue for the respective fund.

Madison Superintendent Dan Kostencki said the district fell short "overall" and said things

weren't helped by the state delaying and then reducing its payments last year.

"Things are extremely tough around here (financially)," Kostencki said. "That's no deep, dark secret. We got off the Watch List last year, but we knew it was going to be tough to say off the list."

Madison had previously been on the Watch List for the 1988-89, '89-90 and '90-91 school years.

"The Watch List is the State Board (of Education)'s best barometer for monitoring the financial conditions of the schools," said State Superintendent of Education Robert Leininger.

"The system, however, is not perfect. Many districts stay off the Watch List by converting

(See LIST, Page 12A)

Two Black History Month contests at Venice Library

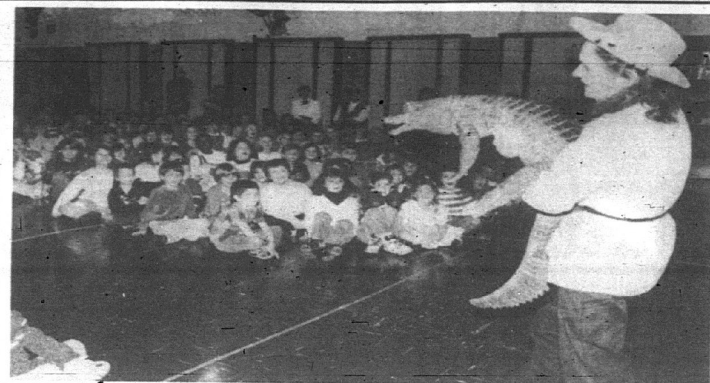
Who created the recipe for a frozen dessert served in a cone? Who was the first hero of World War II? Who advocated "Back to Africa" as the solution to racial tension in America?

For those who know it was Augustus Jackson, Dorie Miller and Marcus Garvey, respectively, the Venice Public Library has a contest that shouldn't be missed. Those who never would have guessed they were looking for three African-American men shouldn't miss it either.

"If a race had no recorded history, its achievements would be forgotten and, in time, claimed by other groups," Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson, a Harvard-educated historian, said prior to his death in 1950.

Woodson founded the National Association for the Study of Negro

(See CONTESTS, Page 12A)



Surprise! — Lake School students got a surprise visitor when Bev Stuhr brought out her 5½-foot-long crocodile (top right photo). Stuhr, who lives in Iowa with her husband and a house full of reptiles, dogs, cats and a couple of skunks, travels the country educating children and adults about the animals. In top left photo, Stuhr holds up a Ball Python snake. At right, sixth-grade teacher Bill Brooks pets Stuhr's crocodile. At left, Rowdy the cat acts as a pillow for her friend, a one-and-a-half-foot-long Caiman crocodile.

FACES IN THE CROWD
PAM DOEPKE-HURD



Two more face trial in slaying

By Nicole Vaughn
Staff writer

Three suspects avoided trials by pleading guilty to the murder of a wheelchair-bound Granite City man last week and a fourth may join their ranks this week.

Assistant State's Attorney Robert Trone said John C. McIntyre, 18, is expected to enter a first-degree murder plea this week after two other suspects agreed to testify that he set fire to the body of Thomas M. Bauer.

Bauer, 37, was pronounced dead at 2:59 a.m. Aug. 10 in his home in the 2200 block of Illinois Avenue. Firefighters and an arson investigator found Bauer's burned body in his bed beneath a blanket. When the blanket was removed, they found a charred belt around Bauer's neck.

Strangulation was listed as the official cause of Bauer's death. Five individuals were originally charged with first-degree murder, arson and concealment of a homicide in Bauer's death.

In addition to McIntyre, they are: Roena Ashing, 38, and Jeffrey L. Ramsey, 29, and Robert Russell, 19, all of the 2000 block of Cleveland; and Richard R. Loftis, 26, of the 500 block of Washington in Madison.

Instead of proceeding with his scheduled trial last week, Ramsey pleaded guilty Wednesday to the first-degree murder charge and agreed to a 55-year prison term.

Russell and Loftis also entered guilty pleas with Russell agreeing to a 35-year sentence and Loftis to a 20-year sentence. Ramsey and Russell also agreed to testify against Ashing and McIntyre, Trone said.

"Everybody was pointing fingers but they were pretty consistent in who they were pointing fingers at," Trone said.

Trone said Ramsey still maintains that he did not strangle Bauer. Before he was strangled and his body burnt, Bauer was beaten with a skillet "until the bottom fell out," Trone said.

"It wouldn't make any difference who did what," Trone said. "They were there."

Trone said the only one not actually involved was Loftis, whom he said was in a car parked more than two blocks from Bauer's home. But, Loftis said that Bauer's home was to be burglarized. That is a felony and since the murder was committed during that felony, it would make Loftis liable under the law.

Trone said he will recommend a 55-year prison term for Ramsey in exchange for his guilty plea, a 35-year term for Russell and a 20-year sentence for Loftis.

While Ramsey denies having actually strangled Bauer, conflicting testimony on that point is expected, Trone said.

Police log

Granite City

Arrested on sex charge

James E. "Jamie" Tucker Jr., 18, of the 2100 block of Adams Street, was arrested at 2:25 a.m. Feb. 16 on an Edwardsville warrant charging him with failure to appear in court on a charge of criminal sexual abuse.

Bond on the warrant is \$5,000.

Pushed into snow, cold

Edward L. Belling, 36, of the 3100 block of Edgewood Avenue, was arrested at 1:38 a.m. Feb. 16 for domestic battery.

He is alleged to have grabbed, choked, kicked and pushed his wife against a wall, opened the door and pushed her out into the snow without shoes, socks or a coat, according to a police report.

Belling was lodged pending \$107 bail.

Arrested for battery

Scott J. Bourbon, 28, of the 2900 block of Marshall Avenue, was arrested at 6:41 p.m. Feb. 15 for domestic battery.

He is alleged to have spit on his 24-year-old girlfriend during an altercation at their home, according to a police report.

Bourbon was released after posting \$107 bail.

Missouri man charged

James A. Wright, 33, of Florissant, Mo., was arrested at 3:32

a.m. Feb. 17 for driving under the influence of alcohol and improper parking on a roadway. An officer reported seeing a blue 1985 GMC Suburban resting against the center concrete median on Highway 162 near Nameoki Road. The vehicle's engine was running and in gear and Wright asleep behind the wheel, according to a police report.

Wright was awakened, took three field sobriety tests and a breath analysis test and was charged.

He was released on a notice to appear in court.

Domestic charge filed

Rodney A. Talley, 28, of the 2100 block of Benton Street, was arrested at 7:22 p.m. Feb. 16 for domestic battery.

He is alleged to have struck a 42-year-old woman in the chest with his fist.

DUI in crash alleged

Donna J. Kahn, 37, of the 2900 block of Oregon Avenue, was arrested at 11:40 p.m. Feb. 17 for driving under the influence of alcohol.

An officer responding to an accident at Nameoki and Fehling roads reported finding a blue 1991 Honda Accord, according to a police report.

Kahn, the driver, took two field sobriety tests and a breath analysis test and was charged. She was released after posting bail.

Clinton

(Continued from Page 1A)

effort to cut the deficit. Specifically, Clinton has proposed raising the maximum income tax rate to 36 from 31 percent for people with joint incomes of more than \$140,000 a year. His plan does not include the middle class tax cut he spoke of during the campaign, but does call for an energy tax that would affect almost all Americans.

Although most of the people in the audience knew they could expect higher taxes if the plan wins Congressional approval, most expressed their overall support of Clinton's tax proposal — if it is accompanied by government spending cuts.

"I don't mind paying more taxes as long as they don't spend it on the other end," said Ron Schenberger of South County.

"I'll pay taxes if they use them correctly to knock the deficit down," said Chris Bredahl of Eureka.

Souard resident Gary Reed said he was optimistic about the

next four years even before he heard Clinton's speech.

"It'll work if everyone shares in the belt tightening a bit," Reed said. "Even my grandfathers don't need as much Social Security as he's getting."

"I'll go along with that Social Security cut as long as he puts the notch year back in. I'm in the notch year," said Frank Jurkiewicz of North County. "One thing about his speech, though, he didn't blame anybody."

People seemed most impressed that Clinton was taking action so early in his presidency.

"I'm glad he's starting in the first month and not waiting until the last three weeks, like Bush," said Sharon Carmody of Afton. "It was not all I wanted to hear, but at least something is being done and that's all I ask for."

"It was a very difficult decision to make but it's one that had to be made," said LaVaughn Caradine of North County. "After 12 years of Republicans, he's got to clean up the mess and we

need to support him. He didn't create the problem."

"I like the fact that he's willing to make sacrifices, too, in government," said Ellie Grossman of Clayton.

The crowd had the expected number of naysayers, some of whom carried signs calling Clinton a liar. Others stood quietly as the audience applauded many of the points of the president's speech.

David Queener of West County was one of the sign carriers.

"Character counts. Bill Clinton deceived us during the campaign about no tax increase for the middle class which is what he's doing," Queener said. "The taxes are not just for millionaires; they are going progressively down to people who are making \$30,000. The energy tax his people who can't afford to pay it."

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Political leaders divided on party lines over Clinton plan

President Clinton's call for shared sacrifice was not lost on at least one area resident.

In fact, Robert Archer of Gillespie said he would top the president in the sacrifice game. "I live on Social Security alone, and I would be willing to give 10 percent back if the rest of the people would give the same," Archer said.

Clinton said he would leave Social Security payments alone, but the most wealthy recipients. That means Archer's payments would be left alone.

But Archer, who lives on a fixed income, agreed with Clinton's message that it is time for Americans to band together.

"I've benefited from a lot of the programs, and it's time for me to help. Not every day can be Christmas."

In a 75-minute speech to Congress Wednesday night, Clinton outlined his plan to beat the federal deficit.

One of the key components would be a tax on the energy content of fuels. The tax would hit everyone who drives a car or heats a home and would favor more efficient use of energy.

"It doesn't bother me. Everything is going up anyway," Archer said.

Bob Schrimpf, former president of Piasa Motor Fuels Inc., said he's never happy with a tax increase, but noted a federal energy tax is spread evenly among all states.

"Anything that is a federal tax is better than increased state

taxes. We're already 12 cents higher per gallon of gas and 16 cents higher for diesel than Missouri," Schrimpf said of Illinois gas taxes. "With this tax everyone in the country will be paying the same."

If enacted by Congress, the program would raise gasoline prices by about 7½ cents a gallon; home-heating oil by 8½ cents; natural gas by 8½ cents per 1,000 cubic feet; and the average monthly electric bill by \$2.25.

A third of the tax, based on a fuel's energy content, would be imposed July 1, 1994. The rest of the tax increase would come on line two years later.

But one energy company official said the taxes would hurt area businesses.

"We've got a lot of heavy industry here that uses a lot of energy," Union Electric Co. spokeswoman Susan Gallagher said. "That would hurt our competitiveness in a global market. And what impacts our customers, impacts us."

Union Electric would be hit hard since 70 percent of the fuel the power company uses is coal, which has the highest energy content and would be hit the most by the tax, she said.

Area political leaders lined up on opposite sides of the energy tax issue.

"He's asking everybody to do their fair share. It's going to upset quite a few people, but what is proposed is more fair," Madison County Recorder Dan

Donohoo said.

Donohoo, a Democrat, added that increased taxes and spending cuts were essential to cut the deficit.

"He definitely has a vision," he said. "If we reduce the deficit, the money we save will offset additional problems."

Not true, according to the area's staunchest Republican: "What these taxes would do is penalize people for their hard work and productivity," Madison County Republican Chairman Edward Ragsdale said.

He said he was concerned about how the energy tax would affect farmers.

"Energy is one of their main expenditures. Farm profit margins are so small this would really impact the farmers."

Instead of raising taxes, which Clinton said would cost about \$17 a month for those with incomes of more than \$40,000, the president should focus more on cutting government spending.

"All these new taxes could push us into recession again. He needs to eliminate waste from government. I think the cuts are too little."

During his speech, Clinton proposed 150 spending cuts. Any one with better ideas should be as specific as he was, Clinton said.

"There are 2,000 non-military federal airplanes that I don't think the government needs, and there are many, many more things that can be cut," Ragsdale said.

— From the Alton Telegraph



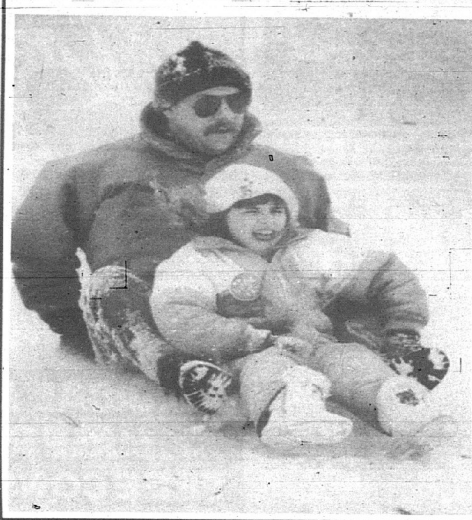
(Staff photos by PAM DOEPKE-HURD)

Sledding fun — It may have made for difficult driving for a few days, but the 8 inches of snow that blanketed the area last week also provided the chance for some outdoor fun. And as a bonus for area youngsters, it forced cancellation of school on Tuesday — giving students a perfect opportunity to enjoy the snowfall, the first major accumulation this winter.

Above, Kenny Cuvor, 11, flies downhill on his sled at the Interstate 270 overpass at Old Alton Road in Mitchell Tuesday afternoon.

At left, Anna Lofink, 9, holds onto her father, Ben, as they speed down the overpass. Tuesday was a school holiday for nearly all area schools because of the snowfall.

With temperatures remaining at or below the freezing mark, residents can expect the snow to remain on the ground for a while. But spring is only a month away.



Mallott selected for judgeship

Lewis E. Mallott had more to celebrate than just a birthday.

The real icing on the cake came when the 48-year-old Collinsville resident, who practices law in Wood River, was appointed Wednesday as an associate judge.

"I'm fortunate," he said. "I really am. I'm still in a state of shock. Of all days to find out, it happened to be my birthday."

A date has not been set but Mallott is expected to take his seat in the 3rd Judicial Circuit in March. The circuit serves Madison and Bond counties.

Associate judges are chosen by vote of the nine circuit judges.

The position became open when former Associate Judge Gordon E. Maag was appointed to the 5th District Appellate Court in December.

It was the third time Mallott, who has practiced law for nearly 20 years, applied for a judgeship. He also sought a federal judgeship in Southern Illinois in January 1991.

"I guess the third time was a charm," he said.

Nineteen lawyers applied for the post, including Jonathan Isbell, also of Collinsville, a former associate judge who failed to win reappointment in 1991.

Mallott represented labor unions after graduating from St. Louis University Law School in 1973 and now does part-time civil work for the Madison County State's Attorney's Office.

A native of East St. Louis, he recently formed a partnership with attorneys Dave Dugan and Rod Pitts in Wood River.

— From the Alton Telegraph

Quinn plans low-interest farm loans

As Illinois farmers prepare for the spring planting season, Illinois Treasurer Patrick Quinn wants them to know he is making job creation and effective farming techniques an integral part of his 1993 Agriculture Loan Program.

Quinn invited farmers across the state to take advantage of those low-interest loans.

The treasurer's low-interest agriculture loans are issued through private financial institutions and Farm Credit offices. Participating institutions receive a deposit of state funds equal to the size of each loan; the funds provide the liquidity needed to make loans but state dollars stay on deposit to earn interest for taxpayers and are not at risk.

"Agribusiness can help lead the economic recovery in Illinois, as long as our farmers have the resources they need for more efficient and up-to-date farming methods," Quinn said.

"With bumper crops last year in soybeans and corn, Illinois farmers are in prime position to take advantage of new international trade agreements that open the gates to new markets. But we can't jump into those markets without access to credit. Whether they are family or commercial endeavors, we must invest in agriculture to keep the Illinois economy growing."

Quinn has dramatically expanded the amount available for agriculture loans since taking office in 1991, moving from \$160 million loaned in 1990 to \$237 million loaned in 1992.

The nearly 6,400 farmers receiving those funds included many investing in irrigation, soil and water conservation and other techniques to make farms more productive.

Farmers who want to know which financial institutions are participating can call the treasurer's office, 1-800-882-6303.

Quinn said he also will assist ownership succession, focusing on young farmers who are preparing to take over the family business and need an infusion of capital to strengthen the operation.

In the past year, Quinn's office also went beyond the boundaries of the traditional agriculture loan guidelines to arrange financing for such job-creating projects as the addition of a packing plant for peppers grown by Rose Farms in Belknap and the expansion of Brandt Fertilizer in Springfield.

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Columnist casts a vote for artistic freedom

Carol Clarkin writes this weekly column for the Edwardsville Journal

We're pretty selective, our small household of two, in terms of movie-going.

We don't go often and, when we do, we tend to rely on reviews and word-of-mouth recommendations from friends who know our tastes.

Based on both reviews and recommendations, we recently decided to see "A River Runs Through It" and were rewarded with a couple of hours of pleasurable entertainment.

Filmed in Montana, the scenery was breathtaking. Ed loved the scenes of trout fishing, and there were many of them.

The acting, excellent. Violence and sexual situations, very low-key — and, for the most part, off camera.

We left the theater feeling good. Not a great picture, but a good one.

Then, within two weeks of our evening at the movies, I read a short news item that a group called New York's Smoke Free Educational Services is currently running ads attacking both "A River Runs Through It" and "Backdraft" (a movie I haven't seen) — attacking the respective directors of the films, Robert Redford and Ron Howard.

Why? Because in "River" two of the main characters smoke. And in "Backdraft," firefighters fight up cigarettes after dousing a fire.

Further, the head of the New York organization, Joseph Cherper, claims his group isn't "trying to restrict artistic freedom." He could have fooled me. That's exactly what I'd figure he's doing.

What Redford's reaction has been, I don't know. Richard Lewis, producer of Ron Howard's "Backdraft," told Cherper to "butt out," according to the news item, adding, "The movie would have been phony if we'd made these guys squeaky clean."

The same could be said of "River," in my opinion.

The years in which the story of "River" is set are in the earlier part of the 20th century, long before the surgeon general

began issuing warnings about the dangers of tobacco.

The two brothers, major characters in the plot, both smoke as young men.

They also dress in the style of the times, drive automobiles of that era, and drink what is probably bootleg booze in a western version of a speakeasy or blind tiger.

It all adds up to authenticity, or, if you will, "artistic freedom" in portraying people, as well as their surroundings and behavior, as they actually were in their own times.

In choosing movies, I'm not into either morality plays or fantasy. Neither do I cotton to the overly simplistic — black vs. white hats, Bill Boyd vs. Jack LaRue (or Palance, if you prefer).

Life — and people — aren't that simple. Complexity interests me. It's real — like life and people.

The people in "River" were just that, real.

The movie said a lot about complexity, differences, as well as a lot about family and love (despite those differences) and respect for nature.

Whether or not two of the leading (and very likable) characters smoked a cigarette or two while on a fly-casting afternoon, or tipped a flask of bathtub gin while hanging out with their buddies, has nothing to do with the plot's premise, but a lot to do with the reality of their times.

and a lot to do with making the movie believable.

We know now the health hazards of tobacco and what we choose to smoke, but somehow I doubt that "River's" two brothers are going to do that — or, for that matter, become role models for our youth.

No one, in this day and age,

can plead ignorance of the health risks we take when we smoke. It's in our heads; we can't blame the tobacco industry or the movies when we assume those risks.

Meanwhile, I think Cherper and his organization can find some better whipping boys than Redford and Howard.

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Lithuania independent, needs transition boost

TO THE EDITOR:

Seventy-five years ago, Lithuanian people shook off the Russian czar's 120-year rule and established an independent democratic state. But it lasted only 22 short years.

In 1939, as a result of the infamous Nazi-Soviet Pact, the Red Army invaded Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. This time, the occupation lasted 50 years, but it was more cruel and devastating.

About one quarter of the Lithuanian population was murdered or shipped to Siberian snows for slow extermination by hunger and cold. Only after Stalin's death did a few return.

The devilish plan by Stalin was to destroy economies and industries of the individual occupied countries and to make them dependent.

He dispersed the factories, machinery and parts among the 15 Soviet republics, so that no one could exist independently.

This created problems for the new, young, independence-seeking former Soviet colonies.

It was the plan of colonization — build factories which have no use for the economy of the republic and bring "specialists" from Russia.

Because of this, Latvia and Estonia are comprised of about 40 percent Russians.

Having tasted such experience, at the first opportunity, glasnost and perestroika, Lithuanian people courageously resisted the imposed communistic dictatorship and revolted.

They declared an independent, democratic republic of Lithuania.

In 1991, 10 months after the restoration of independence, the people and the government of Lithuania withstood the bloody and lethal assault against their democratic institutions by foreign troops.

This successful restoration of democracy and independence are threatened by the lingering presence of the Russian Army and its armaments, and the economic pressure.

The failure of Western democracies to immediately welcome Lithuania into the community of nations has unnecessarily weakened support for democratic institutions in Lithuania, has hindered the transition to a market economy and has discouraged social, political and economic reforms.

We urge Russian President Boris Yeltsin to complete the withdrawal of Russian armed forces from Lithuania without delay, and we ask the U.S. Congress and President Clinton to assist Russia in withdrawing its troops.

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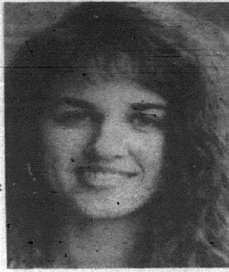
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THE VOICE BOX:

What teacher had the greatest influence on your life and career?

By T.W. MILLER



Christy Trotter, Granite City
"My fashion teacher, Mrs. Reibold. She's inspired me so much."



Cheryl Forbes, Granite City
"Mr. Kirksey, my 4th-grade teacher."



Donna Mink, Granite City
"Ms. Purdue-Tapp, my high school senior English composition/literature teacher."



Grace Parker, Granite City
"My 8th-grade teacher, Mr. Blattner at Venice High School. He was wonderful."



Donna Hoffmann, Granite City
"Kathy Thornburg, she taught child-development classes at the University of Missouri at Columbia, Mo."

State Republicans unveil health plan

SPRINGFIELD — House Republicans say they've got the means of cutting health care costs in Illinois, but a consumer group claims they have the wrong prescription.

GOP members unveiled a series of proposals Wednesday that they said will reduce costs and increase health care efficiency. The legislation is still being drafted and cost estimates are not available.

The lawmakers said a million Illinoisans don't have health insurance, which puts a strain on the state's Medicaid system. The group's members believe their reforms will reduce or eliminate this problem, in addition to lowering costs.

The package includes:
• A tax credit for nursing home residents to offset the \$6.30 per day tax on each occupied bed.

• Increased tax write-offs for the self-employed and small businesses from 25 percent to 100 percent of insurance premiums.

• Increasing from 25 to 50 the maximum number of employees a business is allowed to have and still qualify for a small business group insurance program.

• Establishing a pilot program for managed Medicaid health care in two to three locations.

• Asking the Department of

The root cause of our health crisis is runaway costs. Meaningful cost control is the first priority if we want to expand coverage and improve quality.

— **Robert Creamer**
Consumer group director

Insurance to adopt standard health insurance forms for all companies.

The tax on nursing homes residents generates \$740 million, which the state uses to gain an equal amount in federal matching funds.

Critics of the tax say it's an unfair burden on the elderly. The tax write-off is designed to relieve that burden.

The changes for small businesses are designed to give them the same benefits as larger companies.

"An undetermined cost factor today is the cost of the uninsured and underinsured," said state Rep. Ron Stephens, R-Troy. "What this bill is going to do is deal with a way to reduce those costs."

Locations for the pilot programs would be determined by the Department of Public Aid.

Rep. Mary Lou Cowlishaw, R-Naperville, said the pilot programs would be modeled after an Iowa program that links the public and private sector in an arrangement similar to an HMO (health maintenance organization).

The lawmakers said adopting universal insurance forms would reduce the amount of paperwork and therefore the costs of health care insurance.

The proposals mean nothing more than a state subsidy of the health insurance industry and increasing state expenditures, according to Robert Creamer, executive director of Illinois Public Action, a consumer group.

Creamer said universal health insurance is the only route for reform and claimed it would save as much as \$10 billion in "administrative waste" such as paperwork and billing costs.

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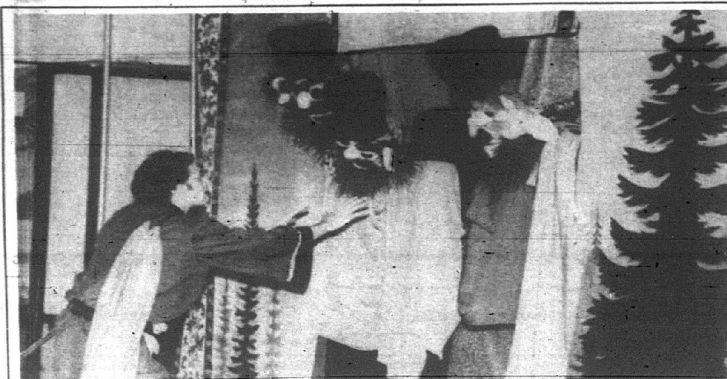
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Entertaining — Madcap Productions stopped in Granite City at Maryville School last week, delighting students with the tale of a Russian prince who must find a thief for his father, rescue a princess and find a husband for an ugly witch before he can become king. In top left photo, Prince Ivan promises to help the czars find their daughter. In top right photo, Ivan is told by the wolf that he must go to the Forest of Sorrow and Darkness to find the witch who can help him find the princess. In bottom left photo, the prince does battle with one of the Troll king's guards.

FACES IN THE CROWD

(Staff photos by
PAM DOEPKE-HURD)



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Chamber music program today

The Coffee Concerts Chamber Music Series program that was cancelled Feb. 15 because of bad weather, has been rescheduled for 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21, in the second-floor Conference Center of the University Center at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville.

The SIUE voice faculty will be featured in a presentation of J.S. Bach's Coffee Cantata, as well as in performance of early English songs.

Performing will be soprano Sarah Turner, professor of music; tenor Ronald Abraham, assistant professor of music and chair of the SIUE department of music; and guest artist and bass David Berger.

Concert tickets are \$7; seniors, \$6; students, \$5. As always, ticket price includes dessert and a beverage served during intermission, and convenient free parking in the visitors' lot adjacent to the University Center.

For more information, call the SIUE department of music; 692-3900.

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Bill would put labels on records

A state senator says records should carry labels to warn parents of lyrics sounding a sour note, but some musicians are singing a different tune.

Sen. Beverly Pawell, R-Wheaton, has introduced a bill requiring record labels for materials sold to customers under 18 if the material deals with drugs, rape, hate crimes, murder, underage drinking, bestiality, sadomasochism, incest or prostitution.

Violations would be a Class 4 felony, punishable by up to one year in jail and a \$500 fine. The labels would be permanently attached to records, compact discs and tapes with the warning "explicit lyrics — parental advisory."

Youths would still be able to buy the records, even with the labels.

"I'm not saying that we ban the record. I'm not suggesting that we go that far," Pawell said. "I'm just saying use your common sense on who can buy it without the parents knowing."

The manager of one record store praised the idea.

"I'm totally supportive of it," said Clay Tetteller, manager of

Tunes Limited in Godfrey. "A lot of times I don't know what they contain and like to refrain from selling them to youngsters, but sometimes I'm unaware myself."

Although some record companies voluntarily put warning labels on their records, Tetteller said the warnings come off with the wrapper.

A majority of Tetteller's business is buying, selling and trading used records, which no longer have the original warning labels.

Two Telegraph area musicians said the labels are pointless and too close to censorship.

Blake Fleming, of the band

Dazzling Killmen, said labeling should be left up to record companies. He said a lot of records are labeled that aren't very explicit and may contain only a profane word.

"More than likely it's not going to be anything (children) haven't heard at school or out on the street," Fleming said. "I think it would be pretty pointless. It seems to be doing OK now."

Doug Rafferty, of the Alton group Judge Nothing, said television, magazines or what children hear at school can have more of an impact on their behavior than music.

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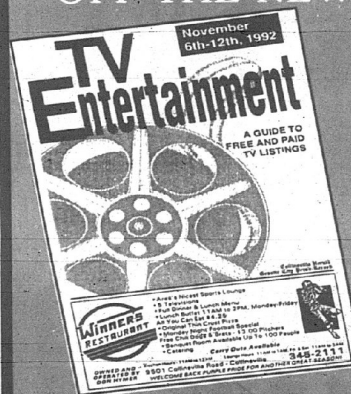


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County planning tax breaks for new refinery in Hartford

Madison County officials are on board to bring a \$1.2 million oil refinery to Hartford by offering the company thousands of dollars in tax breaks.

The County Board voted 24-0 last week to include a three-acre tract of land off Canal Road in Hartford in the county enterprise zone.

The Hartford Village Board adopted a resolution Feb. 16 supporting the tract's inclusion in the enterprise zone. The village also must approve a zoning variance to allow a 60-foot-tall tower at the plant.

American Refining Group Inc. of Oakmont, Pa., has plans to lease the three acres from Conoco Inc. and build a \$1.2 million plant to separate pipeline petroleum products.

Inclusion in the zone would mean four years of property tax breaks for American Refining if the company goes ahead with the proposal, Madison County Community Development Administrator Cheryl Joubert said. A company spokesman said the plant could open as early as June 1, if there are no glitches in obtaining permits and zoning variances at the state and local level.

"The project is in its early stages but we are committed."

— Mike Vandenberg
Refinery president

"The project is in its early stages but we are committed," said Mike Vandenberg, vice president of refining operations for American Refining.

A construction firm has been chosen to build the plant and leasing agreements have been worked out with Conoco, Vandenberg added.

"We're looking at a spring groundbreaking," he said. The enterprise zone includes sections of Alton, Wood River, East Alton, Roxana, South Roxana and Hartford.

The project must be approved by all governments included in the zone, including the county. Under the resolution approved by the County Board, American Refining would not pay property taxes on any improvements the company makes to the tract for four years. The company's property valuation would be assessed as if the tract remained a

vacant piece of land. County officials could not estimate how much the tax breaks would amount to but said they would likely be in the thousands of dollars over the four years.

In addition to the \$1.2 million plant, the company is expected to put an additional \$250,000 into site improvements. American Refining recovers and separates petroleum products that are mixed when pipeline companies switch from one product to another.

In the past, the company collected mixed petroleum here and shipped it to Pennsylvania for processing.

Permits from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and State Fire Marshal's Office are also necessary before construction can get under way but Vandenberg said he does not foresee any difficulties.

From the Alton Telegraph



(Staff photo by BOB SLATO)

Grand opening — More than 70 Venice Township residents braved freezing cold weather last week to attend the grand opening of Madison Mayor John Bellcoff's re-election campaign headquarters at 8th Street and Madison Avenue.

State income tax refunds in the mail

State income tax refund checks due Illinois electronic filers are in the mail.

Comptroller Dawn Clark Natesh recently issued 2,073 refund checks to individuals who took advantage of the state's electronic filing program.

"Everybody wins with electronic filing," said Douglas L. Whitley, director of the Illinois Department of Revenue. "Taxpayers get their refunds quicker, and the department saves money on processing paper returns."

As of Feb. 1, 39,571 state income tax returns had been filed electronically. That compares with 2,928 filed at the same point one year ago. Of returns filed to date, 4,391 had a balance due.

For tax year 1991 the department had 21,581 returns filed electronically. It surpassed last year's total when Daniel C. Fetzner, a Kankakee-area graphic artist, filed on Jan. 28.

Fetzner said that it took only 20 to 30 minutes to file. "It's so fast and so simple."

"Electronic filing is an example of how government can embrace technology to cut costs and improve service," Whitley

said. "We recognized the potential benefits of electronic filing and set out to convince taxpayers like Mr. Fetzner of its merits." Whitley said. "We promoted the concept on the cover of the state tax booklet, and we have been selling the program to tax preparers."

Under an arrangement between the comptroller and the Department of Revenue, 21-day

refunds have been promised those who file electronically before March 1.

Taxpayers who wish to file electronically can have their returns prepared by a tax preparer, or they can complete the returns themselves and take them to department-approved return collectors.

For more information on electronic filing, taxpayers can call the department at 1-800-732-5836.

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Krause on Easter Seal telethon



Chris Krause

Granite City resident Chris Krause has been selected to be a part of the entertainment that will be performed on the third annual Easter Seal telethon Sunday, Feb. 21.

The fund-raising program will be televised on the Granite City local access cable TV channel, Channel 10, from noon to 6 p.m.

All proceeds from the event will benefit local Easter Seal programs offered in a seven-county Southwestern Illinois area.

Krause will be singing, "If There Hadn't Been You," a popular country song. This will be his third time on the Easter Seal telethon. He is a graduate of Granite City High School and attends Belleville Area College's Granite City Campus.

For more information on how persons can give to the annual telethon, the number is 462-5897.

Schroeder to address ostomy organization

The Ostomy Support Group's February meeting will feature Granite City's 1991 National Teacher of the Year Ed Schroeder.

The meeting will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 23, in the President's Room, inside Bonaventure's Cafeteria, on the ground floor at St. Elizabeth Medical Center, 2100 Madison Ave., Granite City. Refreshments will be served and a discussion will be held after the meeting.

Schroeder, who teaches at Coolidge Junior High School, will present an inspirational talk and discuss his experiences as Teacher of the Year.

The Ostomy Support Group is designed to provide fellowship among people who share a common experience and can provide support to others. For information, call 798-3167.

GRE review set

Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville will offer a one-day review and tutoring session for persons interested in preparing for the Graduate Record Examination (GRE).

The session will be held from 9 a.m. till 3:30 p.m. Saturday, March 6, in the Peck Building, Room 3411.

Registration is \$25, and covers study guides and other materials.

A review of verbal, quantitative and analytical sections will help individuals plan study.

Additional information may be obtained by calling 982-3717.

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Retirement will require planning

By the year 2000, more than 31 million Americans will be over age 65.

Yet, only a small percentage of this growing group will have planned adequately, if at all, for their retirement.

In a recent national survey of aging "baby boomers," 60 percent said there is less chance for retirees to be self-sufficient in the 1990s than there was in the 1980s, while 62 percent feared outliving their retirement savings.

Two very important concepts one must remember when saving for retirement are:

1) An individual in not saving for the day they turn in their office key and "retire," but they are saving for life expectancy, which is currently in the 80s for both men and women. Thus, one must have enough resources established to carry them through 20 to 30 years after retirement.

2) When accumulating dollars for retirement living, those are the longest holding-period dollars one will ever have. Thus, the rule of financial planning states, the longer the holding period of a dollar, the more growth-oriented one must be invested.

Many retiree hopefuls are discovering they cannot afford to stop working.

Often, their savings and investments, along with their Social Security and pension benefits, fail to equal the advised 60 to 80 percent of their last working year's earnings.

However, it does not have to be this way. Increasingly, financial planners are using the individual's life cycle as a framework for developing personalized retirement portfolios.

Life-cycle retirement planning assumes the financial objectives



Brian Mulhall

and needs change as an individual passes through different life stages. Rather than fight life's passages, life-cycle-oriented financial planners use each life stage to review retirement planning strategies and enhance investment/savings goals.

Financial planners break the cycle into early career, mid-career/wealth accumulation, pre-retirement and retirement.

Each cycle has its own unique financial demand and concerns. Marriage, children, initial home ownership and paying off student loans typify the responsibilities of those in the early career stage.

Paying for college education, achieving financial independence, minimizing income-tax liabilities, and accumulating assets preoccupy mid-careers.

Financial freedom characterizes the pre-retirement years. With homes that are paid for and independent children, many pre-retirement individuals have the ability to increase their retirement savings.

Yet, delaying retirement planning until this stage, which is a common mistake, leaves insufficient time to build a nest egg.

At the retirement stage, preservation of purchasing power and maximizing income are the primary concerns. A key to successful retirement planning at any age stage is a

careful assessment of one's risk. Risk tolerance is based on an individual's personal preference, other financial obligations and present life stage.

Financial planners can then suggest appropriate investments that complement an individual's risk comfort level and other financial goals.

Investments in common stocks or growth mutual funds have historically provided greater rates of return than the safer certificates of deposit, government obligations or money markets.

Generally, aggressive investment instruments, with higher rates of return, work best for long-term retirement strategies because individuals can take advantage of fluctuating values.

Less-volatile investments that generate lower interest rates tend to dominate the later retirement planning stages when the emphasis shifts to preserving purchasing power.

Each individual's retirement portfolio should have a combination of growth and safety investments in amounts that are in sync with their comfort level.

Many of today's retirees will live longer than their parents did. Chances are, tomorrow's retirement generation will up the life expectancy charts.

Increased life expectancy offers wonderful opportunities for individuals to pursue their interests and follow their dreams. But it also demands fiscal responsibility and commitment.

Successful retirements begin long before the office "goodbye" dinner.

Brian Mulhall of Granite City is associated with a St. Louis area financial services company.)

Free seminar planned on interviewing

ADIA Personnel Services in Fairview Heights will host a free seminar on behavioral interviewing. Wednesday, March 10, from 8:30 to 11 a.m. at the Holiday Inn, 1000 Eastport Plaza in Collinsville.

Behavioral interviewing is a five-step system designed to improve human resources management and includes skills analysis, selecting skill definitions, developing questions, conducting interviews and rating skills. It leads to increased efficiency in hiring and increases the selection of better and more productive employees.

The system was designed by Dr. Paul Green, a leader in human resource management. Andy Anderson, from his staff, will conduct the seminar.

While the seminar is primarily by invitation only for local businesses, there will be limited seating for interested individuals. However, reservations are needed and can be made by calling ADIA at 628-2884.

A.O. Smith amends charter

A.O. Smith Corp. has announced that shareholders at a special meeting Jan. 26 approved three charter amendments.

The charter amendments:

- Change the name of the corporation's Class B common stock to common stock.
- Permit the holders of Class A common stock to convert to common stock on a share-for-share basis; and
- Increase the number of authorized shares.

These changes will increase the corporation's financial flexibility and enhance the liquidity of the common stock, according to Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Robert J. O'Toole.

Firstbank acquires corporation

Firstbank of Illinois Co. announced recently that it has completed the acquisition of First Highland Corp. and its wholly-owned subsidiary, The First National Bank of Highland.

The First National Bank of Highland, operating three locations in Highland, had total assets of approximately \$106 million as of Dec. 31, 1992. Firstbank will now operate 14 banking offices in the Metro-East market with total assets of approximately \$500 million.

Firstbank's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Mark H. Ferguson said, "The addition of Highland to our current operations in the St. Louis Metro-East Market further enhances Firstbank's franchise in this strategically important area."

The First National Bank of Highland represents additional opportunities to combine talented management teams, consolidate operations and improve the distribution network for Firstbank's products and services.

Central Bank, Firstbank's subsidiary headquartered in Fairview Heights, currently operates 11 banking offices in the three county Metro-East marketplace.

Firstbank entered the Metro-East market with its 1986 acquisition of the United-Illinois Banks of Collinsville, New Athens and Troy, and acquired the deposits and the Freeburg office of New Athens Federal Savings and Loan Association in 1990. Banking operations were consolidated late in 1991 resulting in these locations joining Central Bank's offices in Fairview Heights, Granite City, Glen Carbon and Marine.

It's Easy To Create Beautiful Crafts

With FREE Information Sheets From...

FRANK'S NURSERY & CRAFTS

Where Beautiful Things Begin

Want to be a creative crafter? It's easy with a little help from Frank's Nursery & Crafts. They have a series of FREE project & information sheets for crafting and gardening. These sheets are available at the information centers located in all their stores.

Frank's project sheets are easy to follow and convenient. Almost every product listed on the sheets is available at any Frank's store.

This month Frank's has 12 new project sheets to go along with the others they've done in the past year or so. Here is the list:

- Loopy Bunny
- Super Bunny
- Heart Bunny
- Little Bunny Wreath
- Fabric Rubberstamping
- Easter Wood Crafts
- Candy Globe Characters
- Duck Pin Bunny
- Quick Fabric Decorating
- Spring Grapevine Wreath
- Creative Twist Doll
- Creative Twist Baskets

Here is an example of how easy it is to create crafts with Frank's:

7 Easy Steps To Creative Twist Baskets

- MATERIALS NEEDED:**
- 3 pkgs. Creative Twist
 - 1 pkg. #40 print paper ribbon
 - 2 large brown paper grocery bags (bottom measurement 11 1/2" x 7")
 - 1 1/2 yds. of 2" to 2 1/2" ecru lace
 - Scissors, yardstick, glue gun, floral wire, white glue and pinch clothespins or paper clips.

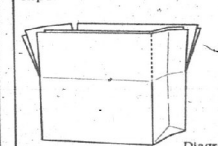


Diagram A

- 1 Place one bag inside the other and cut the bags at four corners to 8" height (Dia. A). Fold flaps to inside of bag and glue to secure.

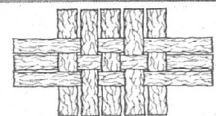


Diagram B

- 2 Open all Creative Twist (C.T.) and cut 5 pcs. 36" and 3 pcs. 44". Turn bag upside down and weave the bottom of the basket into the shape in (Dia. B).

- 3 Glue C.T. to bag at corners to make further weaving easier. Bring all strips up over the top of the bag and to the inside. Secure (temporarily) to the rim of the bag with pinch clothespins or paper clips.

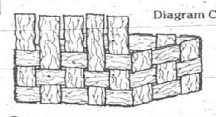


Diagram C

- 4 Cut 3 pcs. of C.T. 42" long. Use these strips to continue the basket weave design around the sides of the bag (Dia. C). Join ends of C.T. strips underneath vertical strips.

- 5 Remove clothespins or paper clips and use a glue gun to secure the inside vertical strips to bag. Cut 3 pcs. of C.T. 13" long and glue to them inside bottom of the bag to finish off the inside.

- 6 Cut 3 pcs. of C.T. 32" long and fold each piece in half and glue with white glue. Braid three pieces together forming handle for basket. Attach handles on each side of basket with glue gun.

- 7 Glue lace to top inside edge of basket. Make two loopy bows from printed paper ribbon and glue to basket where handles are joined. Weave 1 row of printed paper ribbon through middle strip on basket.

Pick up FREE Easy-To-Do Craft Project Sheets At Any Frank's Store!

Feb. 24th look for more great tips from Frank's on another easy craft project!

Free help offered to nonprofit organizations

Charitable organizations need help from businesses that care. During Kelly Week 1993, Kelly Temporary Services is pledging free temporary help to assist nonprofit organizations throughout North America in meeting each community's special needs.

Over the past eight years, Kelly Temporary Services has donated nearly 220,000 hours more than \$1.45 million — of temporary help to nonprofit

organizations in the United States, Puerto Rico and Canada during Kelly Week. This year, about 32,000 additional hours will be given away during this annual celebration of community spirit.

During Kelly Week 1993, the St. Louis Kelly office will give away 20 hours of temporary help to 10 local nonprofit organizations in the St. Louis area, for a total donation of 200 hours.

A drawing will be held to select the winners from among the nominated organizations. Winners will be announced March 1 and will be honored during Kelly Week 1993 celebrations, March 14-20.

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Memorial's Mammography Center provides screening mammograms by skilled professionals using state-of-the-art low-dose equipment. Memorial's program is recognized by the American Cancer Society as being accredited by the American College of Radiology. The \$61 fee includes interpretation by board-certified radiologists.

But at Memorial, you have added benefits not possible in mammography vans: a screening mammogram performed in a facility designed with your special needs for **privacy, comfort and convenience** in mind. And, Memorial's Mammography Center is a permanent part of the community — always available so you can make an appointment at your convenience — not just when a van periodically visits an area shopping center's parking lot. If follow-up is needed, you won't have to fight the St. Louis bridge traffic — you can remain conveniently close to home.

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(Staff photo by PAM DOEPKE-HURD)

Optimists' donation — The Granite City Optimist Club made a \$525 contribution to the Trails West Council of Boy Scouts of America at the Scouting program's annual fund campaign kickoff. From left are Jim Engleke, campaign chairman; Charlotte Charbonnier, Optimist president; and John Fruit, Trails West Council president.

Storytellers to perform at Shrine on March 7

The Riverwind Storytellers Company will present "A Story Celebration" at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows, Sunday, March 7, in the Dr. Tom Dooley Center from 1-3 p.m.

The Riverwind Storytellers along with guest storytellers, David Novak of San Diego, and Kathy Schottel and Irene Eveland of St. Louis, will present an afternoon of humorous, literary, musical

and folklore stories for the entire family. The Riverwind Storytelling Company is a group of story tellers and listeners who meet once a month to perpetuate the art of storytelling. Once a year they gather storytellers from the Midwest to participate in their annual workshop. Admission is free and seating is limited. For more information call 397-6700.



Dr. Darren Wethers

Darren E. Wethers, MD

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452-5418

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Medical School in Chicago

Board Certified in Internal Medicine

Appointments are now being taken

Dr. Wethers will begin seeing patients March 3

Shoe drive will benefit area needy

By Ann-Marie Campos
Staff writer

The second annual "Good Soles for Needy Souls," a used shoe and boot drive, has gained the efforts of Metro East organizations this year.

Famous Brand Shoes, Suburban Journals and Catholic Charities throughout the metropolitan area are sponsoring the event. Anyone who donates a pair of used shoes or boots between Friday, Feb. 19, and Saturday, Feb. 27, will receive a \$5 coupon toward a pair of Famous Brand shoes worth \$30 or more.

"They asked us if we'd like to participate. It seemed more proper for the shoes to be distributed to be from Illinois," said Sister Jacqueline Motzel, the director of social ministry for the Catholic Social Services in Belleville.

Shoes and boots collected in the drive will be distributed at Catholic Social Services outreach centers throughout the metro-east, which include centers in Mount Vernon, Marian and East St. Louis.

Staff members at the Catholic Urban Program in East St. Louis, know that the shoes are already in high demand.

"We do screening and give

GOOD SOLES for NEEDY SOULS

them out to clients that have already come in and requested a need for shoes," said coordinator Joe Hubbard. "They'll just come in and we'll size them up."

Hubbard said last year the agency received 50 pairs of shoes, but 500 people were on the waiting list. A total of 26,000 shoes were collected and distributed throughout the Metro East in 1992. On Thursday, Hubbard said this year's list consisted of 40 individuals so far.

Currently, he said the agency is getting a lot of requests for men's and children's shoes.

"We get a lot of adult shoes, but not many children's shoes," Hubbard said.

To help increase the collection of children's shoes, several area schools and churches are collecting shoes for the drive.

The nine Famous Brand locations participating in the used shoe and boot drive are:

• 2620 Olive Blvd. in University City.

• 8045 Watson Road in Webster Groves.

• 10036 Manchester Road in Glendale.

• 11977 St. Charles Rock Road in Bridgeton.

• 11248 W. Florissant Ave. in North County.

• 6929 S. Lindbergh Blvd. in South County.

• 136 Four Seasons Shopping Center in Chesterfield.

• 15440 Manchester Road in Ellisville.

• Crossroads Shopping Center in Fairview Heights.

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FOR MAYOR

"WHY PAUL FISK"

As I see it, to be an effective mayor, you must possess four characteristics. Each are important and they must appear in combination and in balance.

1. **EXPERIENCE:** Not only in politics, but in life. My long and varied record of public service, 14 years on the City Council, 4 years in the military, as well as service in the East Granite Home Improvement Association and co-founding the Housing Rehabilitation Board, is unmatched by any other candidate. As your next mayor I will bring this experience to City Hall.

2. **STRONG ROOTS IN THE COMMUNITY:** The mayor needs to have deep roots in the community that he wishes to serve. He needs to understand how each neighborhood relates to the other, how each has its own individual concerns, and how they best can be motivated to cooperatively pull together for the greater good. More than that, if the people are to have confidence in his plan for the future, they must know his past. I have spent over 40 years in Granite City. My past is an open book. "THERE'S NO RISK WITH FISK."

3. **INDEPENDENCE:** A good mayor must avoid the undue influence of overt political machines. Without such independence, he will be compromised by the inevitable conflicts with his past obligations. I intend to review all of the departments at City Hall, analyze the to-be-completed Melville Study and implement its workable proposals. If the public can be better served by three people in a department formerly served by six, if appointed positions are no longer necessary and should

be eliminated, then changes will occur. There will be no "across the board" percentage reductions, but corrective measures where needed, praise where warranted, and fairness to all. Only a truly independent mayor can make such tough decisions.

4. **CHARACTER:** This is the most important quality of a successful mayor. My long standing and active involvement in my church gives me a moral perspective that guides everything that I say and do. Patronizing a special interest to return or curvy political favors will be a constant temptation for the new mayor. Granite City needs a man who has the strength of character to resist the temptation to put politics first and people second. With Paul Fisk you have such a man. The mayor's office will be the final point of accountability for all city government.

As your mayor, I will spend every minute of every day concerned only with the people's business. I will put the public interest first, foremost and only. I will not spend one minute of one day worrying or working toward re-election. I will not campaign nor seek any other office, but will work full time and exclusively on the job at hand.

CHECK THE RECORD. Of all the candidates for mayor, I alone possess the sufficient combination of EXPERIENCE, ROOTS, INDEPENDENCE AND CHARACTER. All the candidates possess some, but only Paul Fisk has them all. I ask only for your vote for the people and for our future. Let's "build the bridge to our future."

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FAMILY

Lenten fish fry set for March 5 in Madison

Kathy Dohnal covers the Madison-Venice scene for the Press-Record/Journal. Articles can be sent to 2108 Lynch or she can be contacted at 797-3077.

Cathy Campbell was guest of honor at a baby shower held on Jan. 24 at the Madison Recreation Center. The event was hosted by family and friends. Prizes were awarded and a buffet luncheon served.

Assisting Cathy in opening her gifts were Tonya Campbell; Donna Langenstein and Erin; and Kim Pryor. Other attending were Elsie Gordan; Pam Campbell; Janet Gordan and Ashley; Laura Guenther; Imogene Richmond; Sandy Fleming; Kathy Gamble; Betty Greer and Jaden; Hattie Mulnik; Sister Barbara Mulnik; Beverly Bargel; Agnes Ruesing; Rita Ruesing; Sue Smith and Lynn; Erin Ruesing and Natalie; Clara Bonk; Judy Hosna; Rhonda Bonk; Connie Grupas; George Dozier; Angela Grupas; Eva Majkut; Jennie Dyjeski;



Kathy Dohnal

Laura Gordan; Phyllis Boone; Carolyn Kastings; Phyllis Richmond and Candy; Laura Sipes; Stacie Wallace; Elke Richmond; Gina Gordan; Debbie, Cheri and Kim Karius; Sharon Gordan; Judy O'Malley; Jane Orrick; Tammy Goes; Mary Goes; Kate Lynn Pryor; Yvonne Hickman; Helen Romanic; Jennifer Romanic; Mattie Campbell; Amy and Jan Frederick; Helen Bertachi; Mary Beth Sipes and daughters, Sandy and Melissa Lynch; Mary Ellen Garofoli and daughter, Virginia Bush; Sue Miller; Lisa Bush; Kathy Dohnal; Teri Lake; Sandy Odom; Julia Green; Cathy Werner; Barbara Radcliff; Cindy Miller.

Janice Wilson; Cheri Johnson.

St. Stanislaus Lodge will hold its annual Lenten fish fry on Friday, March 5, at the Polish Hall in Madison. Carryouts will be available and free deliveries can be arranged by calling 876-9066. Serving will begin at 11 a.m. Dinners will be \$4.25 and sandwiches \$2.25. The menu will be Icelandic cod, slaw, spaghetti or potato salad and dessert. The public is invited.

St. Mary's Activities Committee is sponsoring a chili or chicken mulligan supper from 4 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 6, at Engelbert Hall, 10th and Washington, in Madison. The cost of the "all-you-can-eat" supper will be \$3.50 for adults \$2 for children (12 and under). This will include dessert, coffee, tea or milk. Hot dogs will be available. Carryouts also will be available and you may bring your own container.

Lioness Club sponsors Valentine's Day party

Lucille Martin covers the Pontoon Beach scene for the Press-Record/Journal. She can be contacted at 933-0721.

Pontoon Beach Senior Citizens held their monthly potluck and meeting Saturday, Jan. 31, in the Senior Hall. Members attending were Bill and Ruth Dagon; Earl and Rose Edmiston; Bob and Genny Alford; Jeff and Brian Alford; Jeri Schieb; Chalace Grigsby; Lea Andersen; Irene McCaslin; Jean Horstmeier; George and Gladys Bass; Joe Fisel; Karmyn Edmonds; Birdie Tayan; Betty McGinnis; Alice Hudson; Leona Bell; Florance Stewart; Mabel Kennerly; Berna Hall; Julia Mainer; Andy Simurda; Elly Mainer; Ralph and Juanita Craycraft; Lois Snipes; Faye B. Rody; Edna Webster; Helen Niepert; Lorraine Parkenson; Lottie Ostrich; Irene Weber and Sophia Harrison.



Lucille Martin

Don and Linda Bowsell and granddaughter Allison and Dean Bowsell visited with friends, George and Phyllis Hoelscher, in Warrenton, Mo., on Sunday. They also visited with their sons, Tim and Gary Hoelscher.

The Lioness Club of Pontoon Beach gave a Valentine party Saturday, Feb. 13, for the residents of the Colonades Nursing Home. All of the 70 residents were given cookies, candy and gifts. Christy Wells and Amy Starko entertained with clogging.

(city and western dancing). A chosen king, Tom Miller Sr., was given a heart shaped box of candy decorated with a tie and the chosen queen, Kate Borchwardt, was presented a heart-shaped box of candy decorated with a rose and lace. Attending were Lioness liaison officer of Lioness, Kenny Turcott and Betty Johnson, Marlene Cook, Delores Kiefer, Ada Conklin, Helen York, Dottie Farrell, Christy Wells, Tiny Turcott, Jane Moore, Evelyn Kaleta, Marion King, Amy Starko and Kathy Goodrich. Golda Thornbird, a resident will be 104 years old on her birthday and Sleta Kinney and Mattie Parker are both 100.

Art and Pauline Dunn of Fredricktown, Mo., former residents, are visiting their daughter and son-in-law, Nick and Janet Pourdas, and other relatives and friends.

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New Slimettes class being offered

The Granite City Park District is offering a new session of Slimettes at the Brown Recreation Center.

The classes will be held on Monday and Wednesday from 7 to 8 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 2 p.m.

Registration will be held beginning Feb. 22 at 9 a.m. at the Wilson Park office. The classes will begin March 1.

Fees are \$10 for Park District residents and \$20 for non-residents. Enrollment is limited and taken on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information, persons may call the Wilson Park office at 877-3059. The instructor will be Debbie Wichard.

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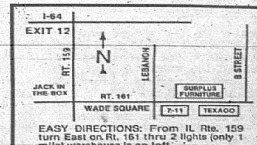


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Obituaries



Arlene Phelps
Arlene L. (Simmons) Phelps, 86, of Granite City, formerly of Advance, Mo., died at 9:23 a.m. Friday, Feb. 19, 1993, at her home. She had been ill for 10 years.

Born in Marshall, Ill., on Aug. 21, 1906, she resided in Granite City for 50 years. A homemaker, she was a member of Third Baptist Church in Granite City. Survivors include a daughter, Louise McKinnon of Granite City; two sons, Virgil Phelps of Granite City and Billy Simmons of New Market, Va.; a stepson, Raymond Phelps of Bell City, Mo.; a daughter, Annie Scowden of Sturdivant, Mo.; a brother, Charles Simmons of Michigan; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Warren Phelps, and her parents, William and Josephine (Glover) Simmons.

Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. today at Morgan Funeral Home, Advance, Mo., where funeral services will be held at 1:30 p.m. Monday. Burial will be at Hollinger County Cemetery, Irwin Chapel, Mo., in charge of local arrangements.

Theresa Berger
Theresa V. (Llewellyn) Berger, 66, of Belleville, formerly of Granite City, died at 10:25 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19, 1993, at Memorial Convalescent Center in Belleville. Born in South Wales, England, on Feb. 28, 1926, she resided in Belleville for 30 years. She lived most of her life in Granite City. A homemaker, she attended First Assembly of God Church in Belleville. She served as a pink lady at Belleville Memorial Hospital for 17 years.

Survivors include two sisters, Velma Brennan of Belleville and Betty Bell of Hammond, Ind.; a sister-in-law, Vera Berger Miller of Granite City; and 15 nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Arthur and Harriet Llewellyn; a brother, Reggie Llewellyn; and a sister, Elsie Boker. Private services will be held Monday at Thomas Memorial Mortuary, Granite City, with the Rev. Doug Rose officiating. Burial will be at Sunset Hill Memorial Estates, Glen Carbon. The family suggests memorials to the First Assembly of God Church Building Fund or Missions Fund.

June Sheriger
June D. (Thompson) Sheriger, 71, of Granite City, died at 3:30 a.m. Friday, Feb. 19, 1993, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center. She had been ill for three years and in the hospital for one day.

Born Dec. 23, 1921, she was a lifelong resident of Granite City, a homemaker and a past state officer of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary. Survivors include a son, Leo Sheriger of Collinsville; two daughters, Linda Harp of Granite City and Donna Skoba of Buffalo, N.Y.; a sister, Mary Lou Jones of Granite City; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Bert and Martha (Blake) Thompson, and two brothers. Arrangements had not been finalized, but visitation is planned for today, Sunday, at Irwin Chapel, 3960 Maryville Road, Granite City, 931-8000. Funeral arrangements for Monday were pending.

James Pantagis
James Pantagis, 72, of Madison died at 10:45 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 17, 1993, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center, Granite City. He had been ill for 1½ months and in the hospital for three days.

Born June 30, 1920, in St. Louis, he had lived in Madison since 1944. He had been employed at the U.S. Army Melvin Price Center in Granite City and was a member of Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Belleville.

Survivors include his wife, Dena (Pappas) Pantagis of Madison; a son, George Pantagis of Madison; and a daughter, Chris Peto of Reno, Nev. Visitation will be held from 4 to 9 p.m. today at Mercer Mortuary, 1416 Niedringhaus Ave., Granite City. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Monday at Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, Highway 159 four miles south of Interstate 64 in Belleville, with the Rev. Emmanuel Hatzidakis officiating. A procession to the church will leave Mercer Mortuary at 9:30 a.m. Burial will be at St. Matthew's Cemetery in St. Louis. The family suggests memorials to the church.

Jack Simpson
Jack Crabtree Simpson, 64, of Granite City died at 1:45 a.m., Saturday February 20, 1993. Mr. Simpson was born July 12, 1928, in St. Louis, and lived most of his life in Granite City. He retired from the U.S. Army Aviation Systems Command in July 1983 after 37 years, and was a World War II and Korean War veteran. He was a member of the Granite City VFW Post 1300, Madison AMVETS Post 294, Varsity American Legion Post 307, Granite City Elks Lodge 1663, Town and Country Gun Club, National Rifle Association, Army Aviation Association of America, and AARP. He was also a member of Sacred Heart of Jesus Polish National Catholic Church in Madison.

Survivors include his wife, Constance (Macios) Simpson; two daughters, Shelly McCullough of Granite City, and Karen DeCourcey of Granite City; three sons, Glenn Simpson of Granite City, Larry Opich of Anaheim, Calif., and Edward Opich of Lakeland, Fla.; his stepmother, Mary Simpson of Granite City; two stepbrothers, Earl Carty of Madison and William Carty of Mountain Grove, Mo.; one step-sister, Dorothy Joyner of Granite City; his father-in-law, Walter Macios of Madison; and five grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, Guy and Sedalia (Crabtree) Simpson; and a son, James Bradley Simpson.

Arrangements are pending at Irwin Chapel, 3960 Maryville Road, Granite City. Memorials are suggested to the building fund at Sacred Heart of Jesus Polish National Catholic Church or Madison County Hospice. For further information, please call 931-8000.

Jessie Dunahee
Jessie Artie (Miller) Dunahee, 70, of Collinsville died Thursday, Feb. 18, 1993, at her residence. Born in Argenta, Ill., on Feb. 16, 1922, she was employed as a laborer for Hunter Packing Co. and was a taxidermist in the Collinsville area for 28 years.

Survivors include her husband, Jeff Dunahee of Collinsville; three sons, Carl Dunahee of Belleville, Harold Dunahee of Collinsville, and Donald Dunahee of Troy; four sisters, Mary Mansville of Decatur, Helen Warren of Collinsville, June Smith of Waterloo and Vivian Courtwright of Granite City; nine grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, Lawrence B. and Jessie (Snapp) Miller, and a brother, Lawrence Miller. Funeral services were held Saturday at Herr Funeral Home, Collinsville, with the Rev. Robert Haslam officiating. Burial was at St. John Cemetery, Collinsville.

board may certify it as "In Financial Difficulty." There are currently 12 districts in Illinois, including Livingston School District 4 in Madison County and East St. Louis District 189 in St. Clair County, that have been certified IFD.

Kostenki said that, although Madison has never been certified IFD, several times in the past 12 years the district has been requested to submit a written financial review to the state as part of the IFD certification process.

"It could happen here," Kostenki said. "But that wouldn't be the end of the world either. We're having a tough time financially. We have to watch what we spend and how we spend it. It's not easy. It's not fun. We just do what we have to do."

If a district is in a severe financial condition, the state

Lottie Geringer

Lottie E. (Stiers) Geringer, 83, of Granite City died Thursday, Feb. 18, 1993, at Rosewood Care Center, Alton.

Born Sept. 26, 1909, at Rhineland, Mo., Mrs. Geringer is survived by three sisters, Jeanette Livingston of Granite City, Margaret Kleindienst of Hermann, Mo., and Edith Wolfmeier of Fulton, Mo.; one brother, Bill Stiers of Fulton; a nephew, Charles Zeugin of Granite City; and many other nephews and nieces.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John Geringer; her parents, Alex and Malvina (Groewell) Stiers; a son, Leon, who died in infancy; and two brothers, Cecil and Aubrey Stiers.

Local arrangements were by Irwin Chapel of Granite City. Services were held Saturday at Tuettmann-Grosche Funeral Home, Hermann, Mo. Memorials are suggested for Best Bottom Cemetery.

Ellis Angle

Ellis "Hank" Angle, 35, of Granite City died at 11:01 p.m. Friday, February 19, 1993, in the emergency room at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Granite City. Arrangements are pending at Davis Funeral Home, 21st and Cleveland, Granite City. Memorials are suggested to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. For further information, please call 877-0120.



Ronald Haley
Ronald E. "Harley" Haley, 35, of Granite City was pronounced dead at 12:43 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 17, 1993, at the St. Mary's Hospital emergency room in East St. Louis.

An inquest will be held to determine the cause of death. Born in Chicago on Feb. 22, 1957, he was self-employed as manager of Haley's Truck and Auto Repair, Fairmont City. An Army veteran, he attended church in State Park Place.

He is survived by his wife, Lubee (Marinkovic) Haley; a son, Paul Haley of Tindley Park, Ill.; a sister, Patricia Morales of Ponton Beach; his mother, Dorothy (Schuck) Haley of Granite City; four nieces and three nephews. He was preceded in death by his father, Augustus Haley, who died Oct. 3, 1983.

Visitation will be held from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. today at Irwin Chapel, 3960 Maryville Road, Granite City, where services will be held at 11:30 a.m. Monday, with the Rev. Cass Johnson officiating. Burial will be at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, St. Louis.

Memorials to the family are suggested.

James Culpepper
James Taylor Culpepper, 65, of Big Sandy, Tenn., formerly of Granite City, died Saturday, Feb. 6, 1993, at his residence.

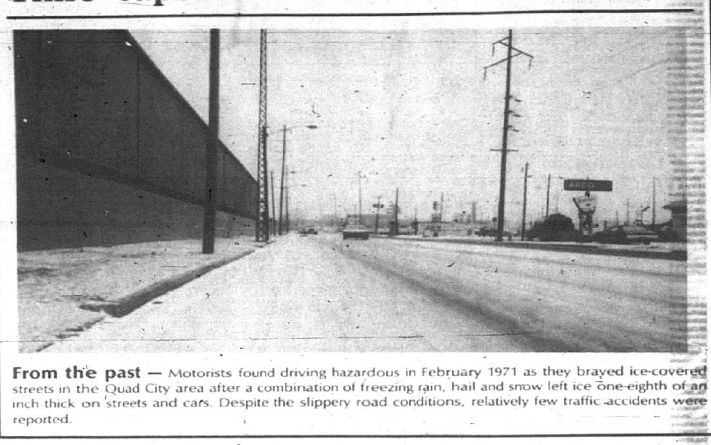
He was born in Houston County, Tenn., on May 31, 1927. Before moving to Big Sandy, he had lived in Granite City from 1960 to 1983. He was retired from the Chrysler Corp. assembly plant in St. Louis.

Survivors include his wife, Odean (Watts) Culpepper of Big Sandy; his nephew, Effie (Taylor) Culpepper of Detroit; three daughters, Gale Culpepper and Debbie Phillips, both of Big Sandy, and Clara Wyatt of Granite City; three sons, Jack and Michael Culpepper, both of Big Sandy, and Jerry Culpepper of Granite City; a brother, Herman Culpepper of Steward, Tenn.; five sisters, June Hoyer, Betty Gerald and Louise Hamilton, all of Michigan, Bea Parker of Dickinson, and Alice Riley of St. Louis; and six grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his father, Elmer Culpepper.

Funeral services were held Monday, Feb. 8, at First Baptist Church, Big Sandy, with the Rev. Will Holbrook officiating. Burial was at Benton Memorial Gardens in Tennessee. Arrangements were by Stockdale Funeral Home, Big Sandy.

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Time capsule



From the past—Motorists found driving hazardous in February 1971 as they braved ice-covered streets in the Quad City area after a combination of freezing rain, hail and snow left ice one-eighth of an inch thick on streets and cars. Despite the slippery road conditions, relatively few traffic accidents were reported.

Teacher

(Continued from Page 1A)

Sotiroff holds outdoor classroom in the spring and fall to educate area elementary and secondary students about the environment.

The prairie site, which has been put together and funded by the Granite City School District, Illinois Power and the Illinois Conservation District, consists of about 12 acres of prairie flowers, 1,500 feet of shrubbery, a forest, a wide walkway and a pond. Sotiroff said that it includes a bird sanctuary and also have a few rabbit dens.

"If there's one thing you learn from working with a prairie, it's that it is slow," Sotiroff said. "He said the demonstration prairie would not be what it is today without the help of area teachers and children who have taken an interest in it."

Trap

(Continued from Page 1A)

have City Attorney Casper Nighoghossian prepare an amendment to the city's vicious-animal ordinance so that it includes attacks on persons or other animals rather than just attacks on persons.

Belleoff said it had come to his attention that a rumor was going around town that the city may either stop picking up garbage and rubbish or start charging residents for having garbage and rubbish picked up, starting the day after the April city election.

"As you all know, that has never been discussed here and is not going to happen," Belleoff said. "This unfounded rumor needs to be stopped."

Contest

(Continued from Page 1A)

Life in 1915. In 1927, he and St. Louis area educators worked together to begin the movement for inclusion of African-American history in class curriculum and ultimately textbooks.

Black History Month, observed in February, grew out of Negro History Week, which Woodson founded in 1925.

A treasure-hunt questionnaire that asks around 80 questions about significant dates, events and people in African-American history is one of two contests being sponsored by Venice Public Library in conjunction with Black History Month. The first four people to return the questionnaire with all of questions answered correctly will be awarded \$25 each.

"African-American history is very impressive," Woodson said. "Many of the achievements of African-Americans were overlooked, ignored and even suppressed by writers of history books. The inventions and

accomplishments of (African-Americans) have profoundly affected America's history and continue to benefit our lives today. They have fostered new hope, courage and new inspiration."

The library's other contest is an essay contest based on the 1993 Black History Month theme, "Impressive: African-American History." Prizes of \$25 each will be awarded to the authors of the four best essays.

The deadline for both contests is Friday, Feb. 26.

Cardholders at the Venice Library may enter the contest at no charge and persons who currently don't have a Venice library card may purchase one by paying 50 cents at the library.

The questionnaires and essay topic and instructions are available at the library during normal hours: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Tuesdays, 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesdays and 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday.

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Children often grow plants in the classroom and replant them in the prairie, he said.

The pond was built by Eagle Scout Mark Hewlett.

The Cloverleaf Garden Club, a local group that recognizes the beauty of nature, has also been supportive of the prairie.

Tom Pennell, a science teacher at Granite City High School, represents the school district in its support of the prairie.

The prairie is in use year-round, although it is mostly dormant in the winter, and is open to the public. Sotiroff encourages everyone to visit it.

He is sometimes available to lead tours, in addition to conducting the regular outside classroom, to those interested in seeing how the Illinois prairie looked in its natural state.

Sotiroff said "If you see these as 'weeds,' then they change

Belleoff said the Police Department has received its new dog, a 66-pound Czechoslovakian shepherd named Odin, and that the dog and its handler will be trained in drug enforcement at the Illinois State Police Academy.

Belleoff read a letter of appreciation he had written thanking the members of the Street Department — and "especially" the laid-off workers who returned to help — for their "outstanding job in clearing the city streets" after Monday's snow storm.

In other action, the aldermen voted to concur with the Zoning Board of Appeals and grant a special use permit to a St. Louis firm that wants to open a motorcycle repair shop at 2000 Edwardsville Road.

Cardholders at the Venice Library may enter the contest at no charge and persons who currently don't have a Venice library card may purchase one by paying 50 cents at the library.

The questionnaires and essay topic and instructions are available at the library during normal hours: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Tuesdays, 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesdays and 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday.

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Easy skillet meal saves cash, ensures healthy ingredients

By Mary Schroeffer
Skillet meals that use only a pound of hamburger or a can of tuna, plus a few extra ingredients, are quick and easy to prepare.

Unfortunately, skillet meals made with package mix are often high in salt and fat, containing up to 950 milligrams sodium per serving.

In contrast, a homemade skillet meal made with unsalted tomato juice has only 69 milligrams sodium.

For a healthful alternative, I prepare quick skillet meals using a few on-hand pantry ingredients.

For a quick rice casserole, start by preparing 2 cups hot cooked rice in a heavy skillet. Preheat ¼ cup chopped onion and ¼ cup chopped celery in the microwave oven 1 minute on high until wilted. Add one can tuna; one can (8 ounces) sliced mushrooms, drained; ¼ cup (1 ounce) grated or chopped cheese with the vegetables to the rice in the skillet. Stir all of it together, then just cover the skillet and heat over low heat until hot throughout. Serve with a tossed salad or a vegetable side dish.

Leftovers can be substituted for any of the above ingredients to create a new entrée:

- Use 1 cup leftover chicken or cubed turkey instead of the tuna.
- Add cooked broccoli or leftover stir-fry vegetables instead of mushrooms.
- Stir in leftover cottage cheese and chopped spinach for a Florentine casserole.

• Add drained kernel corn and a little chili powder for Mexican flavor.

• Use leftover chili with beans with macaroni, in place of rice, for chili-mac casserole.

• Blend drained peas and carrots into the tuna and rice — or pasta.

To keep my home skillet recipe healthy, I read labels when buying tomato products, because the sodium in canned tomato products varies widely.

For example, regular tomato juice has 881 milligrams sodium per cup, but the salt-free tomato juice has only 24 milligrams sodium. One cup unsalted tomato puree contains 49 milligrams sodium, while regular tomato puree has 995 milligrams sodium per cup. One cup tomato sauce with salt added has 1,481 milligrams sodium.

Macaroni-beef
skillet dinner
½ lb. lean ground beef

2 oz. (½ cup) uncooked macaroni
1 small onion, chopped
½ cup chopped green bell pepper
1 can (12 oz.) unsalted tomato juice

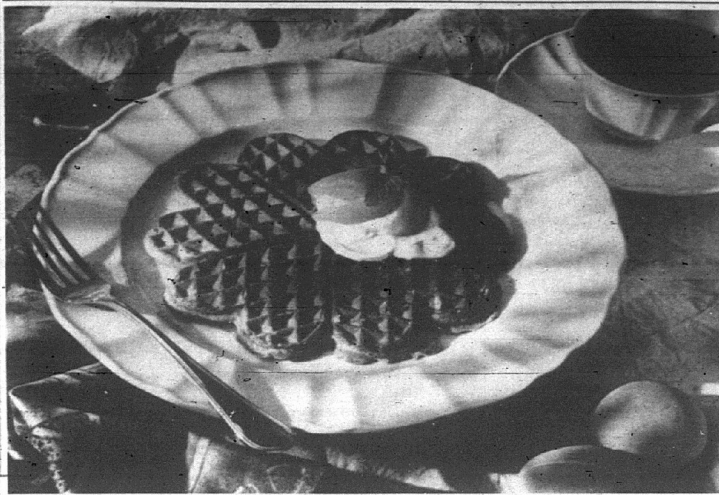
¼ tsp. garlic powder
¼ tsp. Worcestershire sauce
1 tsp. pepper

In medium skillet, cook and stir meat, macaroni, onion and green pepper until meat is brown and macaroni is light yellow. Drain off fat.

Stir in tomato juice, garlic powder, pepper and Worcestershire sauce. Heat to boiling. Reduce heat. Simmer, covered, about 20 minutes until macaroni is tender. Uncover and simmer until sauce is desired consistency.

Makes 2 generous servings: 439 calories, 33 g protein, 38 g carbohydrate, 17 g fat (36 percent calories from fat), 50 mg cholesterol, 69 mg sodium, 48 mg vitamin C, 4.8 mg iron, 6.7 mg zinc each. If regular tomato juice is used, sodium is 728 milligrams per serving.

Home economist Mary Schroeffer is food and nutrition specialist for University of Missouri Extension in Franklin County.



Apricots go in and on waffles made for today's practical enjoyment.

Fruity waffles give breakfast new and healthy favor, flavor

Waffle-making has come a long way. Gone are the days when heavy, cast iron waffle irons were tended over a hot stove. Also on the way out is the notion that waffles must be covered with dollops of whipped cream or slowly melting pools of butter and sweet maple syrup.

Without a doubt, waffles dressed this way are delicious, but not what people who indulge in healthy food would call a breakfast of champions. With minor adjustments though, traditional waffle batters can be modified to reduce fat and calories.

All it takes is a little creativity to make a variety of delicious toppings for these waffles.

Mixing canned apricots and chopped pecans into a batter made of whole wheat flour and buttermilk is a good recipe for a start. Not only are the sweet-yet-tangy apricots part of the delicious surprise, but an easy topping can be made from the juice or syrup in which the apricots are packed.

For more information or recipes featuring apricots, send a self-addressed, stamped, business-size envelope to: California Apricot Advisory Board, Department R-C, 1280 Boulevard Way, Walnut Creek, Calif. 94595.

1 tbsp. oil
¼ cup finely chopped pecans

Preheat waffle iron. In small bowl, combine yogurt and ½ cup apricot syrup.

In large bowl, combine whole wheat and all-purpose flours, baking powder, baking soda, salt and 1 tablespoon sugar.

Whisk together buttermilk, egg yolk, vanilla and oil. Mix into dry ingredients until just evenly moistened. Fold in apricots and pecans. In separate non-plastic bowl, beat egg whites until soft peaks form. Add remaining 1 tablespoon sugar while beating until firm peaks form and egg whites are shiny. Stir one-fourth egg whites into waffle batter. Fold in remaining egg whites.

Use ½ cup batter for each waffle. Cook about 4 minutes. Serve immediately with yogurt mixture. Makes 8 waffles; 268 calories, 9 g protein, 7 g fat, 43 g carbohydrate, 31 mg cholesterol and 324 mg sodium each.

date, 31 mg cholesterol and 324 mg sodium each.

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Apricot pecan waffles

- 1 cup low-fat vanilla yogurt
- 1 can (16 oz.) halved apricots in light syrup, well drained and ½ cup syrup reserved, diced
- 1 cup whole wheat flour
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 tsp. baking powder
- ¼ tsp. baking soda
- ¼ tsp. salt
- 2 tbsp. sugar, divided
- 2 cups low-fat buttermilk
- 1 large egg yolk
- 1 large egg whites
- 1 tsp. vanilla

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School menus

Granite City Public Schools

Monday - Breakfast: Cinnamon toast (two slices), grape juice; lunch: Pizza, tater tots, fruit cup.

Tuesday - Breakfast: Scrambled eggs, sausage patty, sliced peaches; lunch: Manager's choice

Wednesday - Breakfast: Manager's choice; lunch: Manager's choice

Thursday - Breakfast: Cereal with fresh fruit; lunch: Tacos with cheese and lettuce, buttered corn, fresh fruit.

Friday - Breakfast: Sausage roll-up, fruit cup; lunch: Tuna bumstead, sliced carrots, mixed fruit.

Madison Public Schools

Monday - Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, juice; lunch: Polish sausage, whipped potatoes, sauerkraut, cookies.

Tuesday - Breakfast: Doughnut, juice; lunch: Tacos, lettuce and tomato, corn, applesauce.

Wednesday - Breakfast: Scrambled eggs, toast, juice; lunch: Chili and crackers, peanut butter sandwich, carrot and celery sticks, peaches.

Thursday - Breakfast: Pop tart, juice; lunch: Baked chicken, baked potatoes, salad, gelatin.

Friday - Breakfast: Cereal, juice; lunch: Salmon pattu, macaroni and cheese, slaw, cake.

Venice Public Schools

Monday - Cheeseburger on bun, french fries, peas and carrots, cookies.

Tuesday - Polish sausage, sweet corn, pineapple chunks.

Wednesday - Fried chicken, smothered cabbage, candied yams, corn.

Thursday - Beef ravioli, green beans, pears.

Friday - Fish fillet on bun, spaghetti, cole slaw, cake with buttered frosting.

Holy Family

Monday - Pizza, lettuce salad, corn, peanut buttered bread, pudding.

Tuesday - Spaghetti with meat sauce, cheese chunks, salad, buttered bread, green beans, spice cake.

Wednesday - Toasted cheese sandwich, tomato soup, pickles, carrot and celery sticks, apple crisp.

Thursday - Ham and beans, potatoes, slaw, corn bread with honey, jello.

Friday - Fish sandwich, macaroni and cheese, pickles, celery and carrot sticks, peas, peanut butter candy.

St. Elizabeth

Monday - Hamburger on bun, tater tots, green beans, pineapple chunks.

Tuesday - Beef and bean

burrito, carrot and celery sticks, corn, mixed fruit cocktail cup.

Wednesday - Vegetable soup and crackers, toasted cheese sandwich, cupcake and peaches.

Thursday - Baked chicken, mashed potatoes, corn, cherry cobbler.

Friday - Fish nuggets, french fries, green beans, jello, mixed fruit.

Head Start

Monday - Breakfast: Grape juice, biscuit; lunch: Cheeseburger patty on bun, pickles, corn, peaches; snack: Raisins, vanilla wafers, pineapple juice.

Tuesday - Breakfast: Apple juice, corn flakes; lunch: Macaroni and ham casserole, salad, tomatoes, dressing, saltines; snack: orange, soft pretzel.

Wednesday - Breakfast: Pineapple/orange juice, bran muffin;

lunch: Chicken noodle casserole, orange, broccoli; snack: Pineapple/orange juice, bagellette, cream cheese.

Thursday - Breakfast: Orange wedges, sausage biscuit; lunch: Meatball sandwich on hot dog bun, green peas, citrus salad; snack: Peanut butter and saltines, orange juice.

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Prepared childbirth classes set

The Obstetrics Department at St. Elizabeth Medical Center is offering classes in prepared childbirth for expectant mothers and partners with due dates between April 1 and May 31.

Cost is \$15 if delivering at St. Elizabeth and \$35 if delivering elsewhere.

The six-week series of classes includes relaxation and breathing techniques, discussion of labor and delivery, medications, Cesarean births, an introduction to parenting and breastfeeding, and a tour of the OB Department.

Pre-registration is required. Tuesday sessions begin Feb. 23; Wednesday sessions begin Feb. 24; and Thursday sessions begin Feb. 25.

All sessions will meet from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the OB Solarium on the second floor of the Doctors Wing at SEMC, 2100 Madison Ave., Granite City.

Information on a refresher course can be obtained by calling the SEMC Obstetrics Department. For more information or to register, the number is 798-3040.

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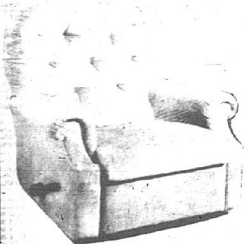
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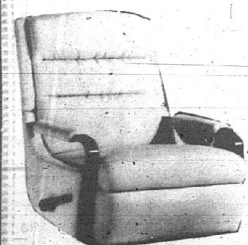
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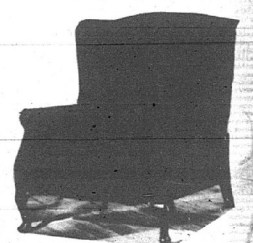
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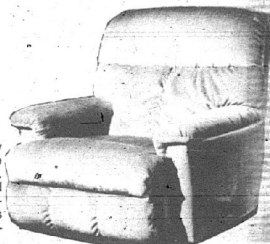
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Madison's Ron Williams selected for All-State team

By Tony Panozzo
Staff writer

The Madison High basketball team has gone largely unnoticed this year while faring well against one of the toughest schedules in the entire state. But senior forward Ron Williams grabbed some major notoriety this week when he was named to the Associated Press 1993 Class A All-State basketball team.

Williams, Madison's scoring leader and one of the top players in the Metro East, was ranked by sportswriters and broadcasters as one of the top 12 players in Illinois.

Williams, a 6-foot-4 swingman, has put together a solid senior

year. Madison coach Al Collins was thrilled with the news, which came Wednesday.

"It's a tremendous honor," Collins said. "I'm very happy for him. He's definitely one of the top three players in the area. His ability and skill level are good enough when you look at the other kids."

Williams is averaging just under 22 points and 10 rebounds per game, and he has served as one of the team's leaders for the past two seasons.

Collins has had high expectations of Williams all year. He said the All-State honor should inspire Williams to reach even greater heights as the Trojans enter the postseason. Madison will play

against Lovejoy at 7 p.m. Tuesday night at the Wescinn Class A Regional.

"I want him to play hard, harder than he ever has before," Collins said. "I told him he might get picked, so he knew it was possible. Now he has to rise to the occasion."

"He's been a great player to build around. Without him, we wouldn't be where we're at."

Williams and the rest of his teammates had compiled just a 12-10 record heading into weekend games against Teutopolis and Alton, but the Trojans have played against tough competition all year.

The Trojans have played the best Class A teams from the

southern half of the state, including Flora, Jacksonville, Springfield, Calvary, Pittsfield and Okaville. Most of their games have been on the road. They played Flora, ranked eighth earlier this year, at the Eastern Illinois Shootout.

Collins said Madison's travels this year might have given Williams an edge over other players in the voting process.

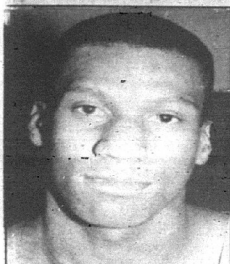
"I always tell our kids that our schedule gives us a lot of exposure," Collins said. "Everybody gets to see us. That's the advantage that Ronnie had."

It may have been an advantage that an equally deserving candidate, Allen Berry of Lebanon, did not have when the all-

state voting was done. Berry didn't make it," Collins said. "That's unreal. He should have made it. That should fire him up at the regional."

Collins is hoping Williams will be just as fired up after being honored as one of the best small-school players in the state.

"He has to stay on an even keel," Collins said. "I just hope he can handle it long enough to help us win the regional and go to state."



Ron Williams
1993 All-Stater

Long Jon Warriors' 3-point threat a standout in two sports

By Tony Panozzo
Staff writer

Whether it's 3-point field goals or shots with a 3-iron, Jon Duft's long game is founded upon accuracy and range under pressure.

Duft, a senior at Granite City High School, has had an exceptional year in both basketball and golf. In the fall, he was one of the best golfers on a team that made it to the state tournament for the first time in school history.

This winter, he has become the Warriors basketball team's scoring leader despite entering the season with little varsity experience. Along with Larry Mosby, he has led the Warriors through a difficult year.

Of the two sports, Duft said, golf is his favorite. But opposing basketball teams and coaches will long remember the 6-foot-3 off-guard's flair for 3-point bombs. At least two of Duft's shots have won games for Granite City this year.

Duft has converted 58.3 percent this season, and he is shooting 37 percent from long range. He is also averaging 14 points per contest.

All of which has taken coach John Van Buskirk by surprise, considering Duft played on the junior varsity level last year.

"That's what some of the coaches are amazed about," Van Buskirk said. "It says a lot for Jon. It's something the underclassmen should look at. Jon has shown you can succeed at the varsity level without much previous experience."

Duft came off the bench in his team's first two games and displayed strong shooting range. He quickly earned a starting spot and made the most of the opportunity.

"I didn't really expect to have this kind of year," Duft said. "Coach Van Buskirk gave me a chance to start, and I think I've performed pretty well."

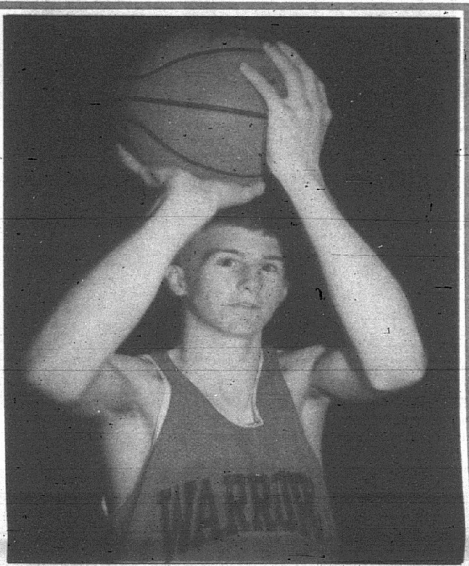
Duft has lessened the scoring burden for Mosby, the only returning starter for Granite City this season. Mosby plays point guard and has been able to look for Duft.

"I have someone to dish it off to," Mosby said. "He's been a big factor for us."

Duft has turned it on several times this year. His first outburst came at the Collinsville Holiday Classic, where he led the Warriors to a victory against Quincy and finished with 21 points.

Duft continued his surge two weeks later, against Cahokia on Jan. 12. He poured in a career-high 30 points.

(See Duft, Page 3B)



Jon Duft has committed to play basketball and golf next year at Lincoln College.

Third meeting magical for Lady Warrior cagers Granite City girls take regional with win over East St. Louis

By Scott Wuerz
Correspondent

The Granite City High School girls basketball team avenged two regular-season losses to East St. Louis and secured its third regional title in five years Thursday night with a 60-53 victory over the Flyerettes.

The regional victory allows the Lady Warriors to advance to a sectional semifinal showdown against Jerseyville, which will be played at 6:30 p.m. Monday night at Collinsville. The winner will advance to the championship game of the Collinsville Sectional and play either East St. Louis Lincoln or Taylorville next Thursday.

Granite City was able to stay close to East St. Louis in the first half with its best game in the rebound department, coach Allen Lobdell said. The Lady Warriors outrebounded the Flyerettes 44-22.

"I'm not at all surprised with the victory, because I've always believed we could win against anyone when we play the type of game we are capable of," Lobdell said. "We were able to execute our offense tonight because we made smart passes and had

GRANITE CITY 60, East St. Louis 53				
	2pt	3pt	FT	Reb
Granite City	20	10	10	44
East St. Louis	18	10	10	22
Granite City	20	10	10	44
East St. Louis	18	10	10	22
Granite City	20	10	10	44
East St. Louis	18	10	10	22
Granite City	20	10	10	44
East St. Louis	18	10	10	22
Granite City	20	10	10	44
East St. Louis	18	10	10	22

good position, and when we do those things we're tough to beat."

The Flyerettes took an 11-6 lead in the first half. But they were unable to hit their shots consistently, allowing the Lady Warriors to stay in the game.

Senior center Dana Dresch seized the opportunity, scoring four points and adding two assists in the second quarter, and staked Granite City to a

(See Girls, Page 4B)

GAME of the WEEK

Wrestlers aiming toward state again

The Granite City wrestling team will face Carbondale at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday night at home in the Class AA Team Sectional.

The sectional was recently moved from Quincy to Granite City. The Warriors (26-0) are shooting for their second straight state tournament appearance as a team and would have to defeat Carbondale and then Edwardsville or Springfield.

Warriors slow down Alton for SWC win

By R.J. Gerber
Staff writer

Granite City used a 16-3 run at the beginning of the fourth quarter to beat the Alton Redbirds 64-60 Friday night in a battle to escape the basement of the Southwestern Conference.

The Warriors, now 7-14 overall and 2-7 in league play, trailed 45-11 entering the final period. But sophomore Pat Curry keyed the Granite City comeback, scoring five points during the fourth quarter.

Curry scored 18 points, including a 3-point shot, and hit a 3-pointer to tie the game at

46 with 5:55 remaining. Alton turned the ball over and Curry's layup gave the Warriors the lead for good. Alton's Courtney Wilson then misfired on a 3-pointer

and after a Granite City miss, Curry grabbed an offensive rebound and scored on a foul.

The 6-foot-3 forward connected

(See Warriors, Page 3B)

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Duft

(Continued from Page 18)

high 27 points, including seven three-pointers. He hit five 3-pointers in the second quarter alone. The Warriors won in overtime, 73-66. "They couldn't stop him in the second quarter," Van Buskirk said. "They had to adjust their defense at halftime."

Duft was at it again during the Salem Invitational Tournament, where the Warriors took the consolation title with wins over Triad and Charleston. Granite City defeated Triad on a game-winning shot by Duft with five seconds left.

Duft has since been the Warriors' go-to player with the game on the line. Van Buskirk has praised the rest of his players for distributing the ball and finding Duft when it counts.

"The win against Triad had a lot to do with Pat Curry's inbound pass to Jon," Van Buskirk said. "You have to give his teammates credit for getting him the ball at the right time."

From Duft's perspective, this season would have been difficult to figure back in the fall. Duft entered the school year with nothing but golf on his mind. He and his Warrior golf teammates advanced to the Class AA state tournament in Danville, and Duft posted the lowest score on his team. He made the all-area team after the end of the year.

"It was a blast," Duft said of the state tournament. "That was our goal at the beginning of the season."

Duft said he spent most of the summer working on his golf, not basketball.

"Golf is my favorite sport, and I worked hard at it all summer," Duft said. "I played basketball a little bit. I played in open gym whenever I could."

"Once golf was over, I started working hard at it. I figured I had a shot at starting."

It didn't take long for Van Buskirk to discover Duft's ability as an outside shooter. Duft grew taller between his junior and senior years, something that has helped him evade defenders.

"He's grown a lot since last year," Van Buskirk said. "The size has enabled him to play better. Smaller people have been guarding him."

One of Duft's best attributes is the ability to thrive in pressure. The Warriors unveiled Duft at an opportune time just over two weeks ago in a thrilling comeback win over Belleville East.

The Warriors erased a 15-point deficit early in the second half and won 57-56. Duft hit a 3-point shot in the final minute to complete the Warriors' comeback.

"That was a big-time shot," Van Buskirk said. "He wants the ball in those situations."

The win over Belleville East was probably the most gratifying for Duft.

"That was a big game for us," Duft said. "I was hitting it pretty well that night."

"Our team never gives up, no matter how far behind we are."



Granite City senior Jon Duft is averaging 14 points per game. (Staff photo by PAM DOEPKE-HURD)

It's been a long year for the Warriors, who were 6-14 going into Friday night's game against Alton. Duft said he just wants to see the team play competitively through the rest of the year.

The Warriors will conclude the regular season at Belleville West on Friday and begin postseason play against Edwardsville on March 3.

"We'll continue to work hard,

and we'll try to upset Edwardsville in the regional," Duft said. Duft will take a break from sports in the spring, but he will be golfing again next fall — at Lincoln College, where Duft plans to be a two-sport athlete.

Van Buskirk wishes him well in both sports. "He's worked hard at basketball," Van Buskirk said, "but I think his first love is golf."

Warriors

(Continued from Page 18)

on the free throw, giving him a team-high 17 points on the evening. Curry stole a pass on Alton's next possession and Jason Black hit a lean-in jumper to make it 53-46.

Granite City held on in the final minute, sinking six of six shots from the free-throw line as the Redbirds were forced to foul. Alton scored 10 points in the last 43 seconds but it was too late.

Alton took a 35-30 advantage into the locker room at halftime following a six-point outburst by center Mark Miley. The 6-3 senior hit two easy layups off lob passes from the perimeter in the last two minutes of the first half. Miley scored 13 of his game-high 18 points in the first half.

After the two easy buckets by Miley and a scoreless span by Granite City for the final 4:23 of the second quarter, Warrior head coach John Van Buskirk made some adjustments.

"We were a little more patient while running our offense and we made them play defense in the second half," Van Buskirk said. "We went to a 1-3-1 zone and packed it in after they threw

those lobs to Miley. They couldn't run and that made a difference."

Van Buskirk said he didn't want his team to get into a transition game with the quicker Redbirds, who beat Granite City 85-70 earlier this season. Redbird coach Stan McAfoos said his team looked totally different in the second half.

"We can't beat anybody playing like that," McAfoos said. "We made some real crucial turnovers at bad times. We've got to know the situation."

"The killer for us was the offensive rebound (by Curry). Everything swung the other way. If we have inside position and box out that doesn't happen. We seem to find ways to beat ourselves."

After the first quarter, it looked as if it would be a truck meet as the Redbirds scored several buckets in transition to

grab a 21-18 lead. But Granite City slowed the pace the rest of the way and Alton couldn't get out on the break.

"If we don't score in transition then we're in trouble," McAfoos said. "We didn't get any offense in the second half."

The Warriors had three other players in double figures besides Curry. Mosby added 16 points, Duft had 15 and Black scored 13. Wilson added 15 points for the Redbirds.

Granite City won for the first time in three games. The Warriors were scheduled to play at home Saturday night against Chatham Glenwood.

After closing out the regular season Friday night at Belleville West, the Warriors will enter postseason play. They will play at Edwardsville on March 3 in the opening round of the Collinsville Class AA Sectional Complex.

Baseball, softball, sign-ups going on

The Granite City Park District is now taking sign-ups for boys and girls interested in playing youth baseball and ponytail softball.

Any boy or girl whose birthday falls between Sept. 1, 1984 and Dec. 31, 1985 is eligible. Names are placed on a list, and teams are formed from the list or by managers who need players to fill out their rosters.

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Ken Schneider	Eureka	3	2	5
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Lafayette 3	Parkey Central 2			
American Conference FIRST ROUND				
Francis Howell 6	Hazelwood East 6			
Francis Howell 6	Hazelwood East 3			

Girls

(Continued from Page 1B)

7:26 lead at intermission. East St. Louis regained the lead 30-29 in the third quarter, but Dresch sank a shot, drew a foul and converted the free throw to tie the Lady Warriors a lead they never surrendered. Dresch had a clutch 17-point performance, her best offensive output of the season. Junior forward Jamie Carveth led all scorers with 22 points. Granite City refused to let East St. Louis rally down the stretch by dominating the boards in the offensive and defensive ends of the floor and taking the Flyers' away from their game plan, coach Clarence Gold-

three said. "We were just out-hustled underneath the boards and it didn't seem like there was anything we could do about it," Goldthree said. Goldthree said despite the loss, he is optimistic about the future. The Flyers' season won't only be a game last season. "I'm extremely proud of the way we played this season, especially when you consider what a young team this is," Goldthree said. "They're only going to get better, so this team looks like it has an extremely bright future." East St. Louis fell to 14-6 on the season with the loss, and the Lady Warriors improved to 17-6. The teams tied for the South-

western Conference championship this season. Goldthree said the Lady Warriors have a good chance of winning Monday. "If Granite City shoots like they did tonight I think they'll be tough to beat for anybody," he said. "They've got a good team, they just need to play within themselves and execute to win." "In order to win, we have to stick together as a team, hold down the turnovers and shut down their shooters," Lobdell said. "East St. Louis has a lot of height, and we can match up against that. Jerseyville has one of the better shooting teams, and we can't let them get the best of us."

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Travelers Abroad hears about visit to Tunisia

Travelers Abroad held its January dinner meeting at Jerry's Cafeteria, with four guests and 24 members present.

Alice Purdes, president, welcomed everyone. Prizes were won by Joe Hill and Waldo Frohardt. Guests' introductions were Nora and Mildred King and Mary Lee and Ed Lorton.

Purdes introduced Barbara Williams, who spoke on her recent trip to Tunisia, North Africa.

Forty-six persons, most of them from the St. Louis area, made the trip and traveled 1,463 miles by bus, after flying to Tunis.

Tunisia, squeezed between Libya and Algeria, has 750 miles of Mediterranean Sea coastline which features modern cities with excellent hotels and beaches—a mecca for tourists who enjoy the sun.

The coastal cities were highly decorated with banners and flags for the Nov. 7 holiday celebrating the change of government that occurred in 1987 when a new president took office. His government is referred to as the "new age."

"Tunisia has always been invaded from the sea—no one in his right mind would try to invade through a desert," the speaker said.

Most of the coastal cities originally were surrounded by high walls for protection but many of the walls were destroyed or badly damaged during World War II. Some have been partially rebuilt in tourist sections.

Kairouan, the fourth holy city of Islam, was visited to see the grand mosque dating from the 9th century. The city is noted for its hand-woven carpets and also manufactures GM, Opel and Isuzu cars.

On a walking tour through Sousse, the group passed the largest city, the group saw mosaics that had been restored on both the floors and walls. One could walk on them or touch them at will. Sousse manufactures Peugeot cars and buses.

Following the coastline south, the group passed El Jem, the site of the largest Roman amphitheater in North Africa, Mahdia, originally a haven for pirates.

The group arrived in Gabes, where a modern city sits next to a seaside oasis, the only one in the world. The group took four-person buggy rides through part of the huge oasis and discovered there are a dozen separate villages within the oasis, which contains over 300,000 palm trees.

Riding through desert-like, barren country, where inhabitants are continually fighting to keep the sand from their crops and off the roads, the group visited the Matina area as well as the villages of Medenine, Tataouine, and Chini.

There the people live in an area carved out of rocks, some times in sections stacked three or four high. One looks up at a hill, sees an opening like a cave entrance, and knows someone is living there.

The island of Jerba, famous for the sirens who lured to Homer's Ulysses as he sailed near it, is a special resort area with the Jewish Ghriba synagogue, a pilgrimage site; a pottery center featuring hand-made pottery; and large beach-front hotels.

Tozeur, a large desert oasis city, was the starting point for a two-hour land rover trip through the dunes of the Sahara Desert. With only some tracks, some times, in the sand, the drivers of the land rovers maneuvered for almost an hour, passing only an occasional donkey cart and man.

Seeing civilization at Nefta, another desert oasis city, the drivers next drove into the Sahara, where the sand dunes were immense.

"Ascending a dune was bad," Williams said. "But descending was horrible."

On the top of a dune, Williams said, they stopped and immediately saw children running toward them, with no habitation anywhere in sight. These Berber children were selling handmade dolls which have sticks as the body with scraps of material and yarn completing the doll.

Throughout the trip, the group visited huge Roman ruins at Gighis, Kasserine, Sbeitla, Makar, Thuborbo Magus, and Carthage—all of which had mosaic work on the ground, unprotected from the weather.

A train ride, using cars presented to the Bey of Tunisia by France in the 1920s, was exciting as they climbed or tunneled through mountains on the line built by the French. Some of the passengers over the gorges were described as unbelievable.

At Tunis, the group visited the famous Bardo Museum and saw rooms full of mosaics from all parts of the country. They then went to Carthage to visit the American Cemetery, the final resting place for many Americans killed in World War II.

When an American visits who was in the North African campaign, a 48-star flag is raised, lowered and folded. One of the group, from Eureka, Mo., had been a 19-year-old soldier there. After the ceremony, he was presented with the flag.

The speaker noted that in the medinas of the coastal cities, the

shopkeepers were always asking if the group was English. When informed they were Americans, the men would grin and say "Clinton" or "Bush." The U.S. presidential election, which had just been held, was "news" that far away.

Membership in Travelers Abroad is open to those who have traveled outside the continental U.S.

Meetings are held on the fourth Monday evening of the month and interested persons may call Helen at 531-7617 for details.

Other members in attendance included Freda Bergdorf, John Gordon, Betty Duff, Virginia Segar, Betty Townsend, Eleanor and Charles Schweizer, Gladys Pape, Marge O'Neill, Helen Lilly, Marguerite Lexow, Dorothy Hoedebeck, Jen Hill, Martha and Jimmy Hayes, Eunice and Julianne Hatcher, Dorothy Frohardt, Nina Dittman and Lillian Delpe.

Mathilde Tommier, an exchange student from France, will speak at the Feb. 22 meeting.

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outstanding musical entertainment in the great Branson tradition with a modern kick!
11 talented musicians from 3 Branson theatres

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7 & 8:15pm
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plus Craftsmen from the Arts & Crafts Marketplace, Rend Lake, Illinois
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special events!

FAMILY NIGHT
Friday starting 5pm—Fredbird and friends Woody Owl & Smokey Bear, plus Free Painting, Caricatures, Magic and more—First 500 families receive a AAA Deluxe Road Atlas + Kilo 500 children 12 & under receive a FREE picture of Fredbird. Listen to Kilo 103FM for details!

COUNTRY MUSIC NIGHT
Saturday starting 5pm—A Country Music Party featuring the Best of Branson playing "hot hits" straight out of Nashville—Hundreds of prizes from TNN including a trip to Nashville, with tickets to the Grand Ole Opry, Opryland Theme Park, and TNN shows. Listen to Kilo 104 FM for details!

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The best ticket in town!

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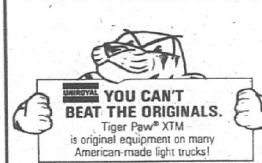
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Size	Black	White	MSRP
P145/80R12	\$53	—	—
P155/80R13	55	58	—
P165/80R13	57	59	—
P175/80R13	63	—	—
P185/80R13	63	68	—
P185/75R14	64	72	—
P185/70R14	67	72	—
P195/75R14	67	75	—
P195/70R14	70	—	—
P205/75R14	70	79	79
P205/70R14	73	80	—
P205/70R15	76	83	—
P205/75R15	73	84	88
P215/70R15	79	86	—
P215/75R15	75	87	88
P225/75R15	77	90	89
P235/70R15	—	79	—
P235/75R15	79	92	91
P235/75R15 XL	84	94	—

ECONOMY

40,000 Mile Expectancy

WHITEWALL	Price
P155/80R13	\$39
P165/80R13	43
P175/80R13	44
P185/80R13	46
P185/75R14	48
P195/75R14	49
P205/75R14	50
P215/75R14	53
P205/75R15	52
P215/75R15	54
P225/75R15	56
P235/75R15	58

MID-RANGE

50,000 Mile Expectancy

WHITEWALL	Price
P155/80R13	\$44
P165/80R13	48
P175/80R13	49
P185/80R13	51
P185/75R14	54
P195/75R14	55
P205/75R14	57
P215/75R14	61
P205/75R15	60
P215/75R15	62
P225/75R15	65
P235/75R15	68

PREMIUM

60,000 Mile Expectancy

WHITEWALL	Price
P155/80R13	\$52
P165/80R13	56
P175/80R13	57
P185/80R13	60
P185/75R14	63
P195/75R14	65
P205/75R14	67
P215/75R14	71
P205/75R15	70
P215/75R15	72
P225/75R15	75
P235/75R15	78
P235/75R15XL	86

TOURING

65,000 Mile Expectancy

WHITEWALL	Price
P175/70R14	\$69
P185/70R14	70
P195/70R14	72
P205/70R14	73
P215/70R14	75
P205/70R15	75
P215/70R15	78
P225/70R15	81
P235/70R15	85
BLACKWALL	Price
P205/65R15	73
P215/60R16	79
P225/60R16	84

IMPORTS

45,000 Mile Expectancy

BLACKWALL	Price
155SR12	\$42
145SR13	44
155SR13	45
165SR13	46
165/70SR13	50
175/70SR13	53
185/70SR13	55
185/70SR14	58
195/70SR14	61
205/70SR14	64
195/65HR14	78
185/65HR15	77
195/65HR15	83
205/65HR15	86

LIGHT TRUCKS

UNIROYAL LAREDO ALL-SEASON P-METRIC

Standard Equipment	Price
On Many New Vehicles	
P235/75R15	\$89
1.0" Raised White Letters	

UNIROYAL RALLYE PERFORMANCE RADIALS

RALLYE GTS	RALLYE GTS TOURING	RALLYE GTH
Raised White Letters	Blackwall	H-Rated
ALL-SEASON TREAD DESIGN	Size	Price
P175/70SR13	\$63	
P185/70SR13	65	
P195/70SR13	67	
P185/70SR14	68	
P195/70SR14	71	
P205/70SR14	72	
P215/70SR14	75	
P225/70SR15	81	
P235/70SR15	86	
P255/70SR15	91	
P215/65SR14	\$78	
P235/65SR14	82	
P245/65SR14	88	
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P275/65SR15	96	
P215/65SR15	85	
P185/60SR14	71	
P195/60SR14	73	
P195/60SR15	76	
P205/65SR15	79	
P215/65SR15	82	
ALL-SEASON	Size	Price
P185/60HR14	\$81	
P195/60HR14	83	
P215/60HR14	89	
P195/60HR15	86	
P215/60HR15	93	
P225/60HR15	96	
P215/65HR15	95	
P205/50HR15	126	
P225/50HR15	132	
P225/50HR16	162	
P245/50HR16	175	

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TV/Radio review

Clinton's recent use of TV similar to Reagan's

This is not about politics. This is about politicians. And the way they use television.

There was more than a trace of Ronald Reagan's approach, it seems to me, when President Bill Clinton took his case for economic changes to the American people two days before he took it to Congress. Like Reagan, Clinton went over Congress' head to the public apparently in hope of marshaling support before the folks on Capitol Hill had a chance to take some shots at the call for "sacrifice."

Clinton spoke directly to the middle class in a folksy kind of way. ("You're not going alone, and you're not going first.") He even invoked the ghost of Ross Perot, through his use of the term "common sense" and utilizing a couple of charts.

Of course, there's a major difference. Reagan was selling reduced taxes, something you or I could sell to almost anyone. Clinton is selling shared sacrifice, which to a lot of people sounded OK during the campaign but has an ugly ring when they find out they also are expected to share.

MAYORAL CHARGES
There is nothing gentle or folksy about the way two of the Democratic candidates for St. Louis mayor are going after each other on the airwaves. Tony Ribaud and Tom Villa are shooting heavy-hitting commercials at each other, each suggesting that his opponent will not fit to face the light of day, let alone hold public office.

And a debate on KMOX-AM (1120) turned into a real slugfest while mayoral candidates Steve Roberts and Freeman Bosley Jr. pretty much stayed by the fray.

POLITICS OF ECONOMICS
And speaking of electronic politics, and the way it is constantly misused on radio and television, someone finally made an important point on KMOX a few days ago.

According to Bob Hardy, the host of "Newsblock" (which runs from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday), we all know that Congress must cut spending in order to get this country on the right track — a philosophy Hardy espouses with abandon regularly.

But on this occasion, the guest a reporter for a national news magazine corrected Hardy. We don't all know that, he told Hardy. In fact, a good many people think that Congress is not to cut spending but to raise taxes.

Of course, the point is not whether you or I disagree. The point is that a good many people on radio and television surrender their objectivity regularly by



Ian MacBryde

presenting their particular philosophies as accepted fact. Hardy, I suppose, can even claim a free pass, because in his host role he isn't pretending to be a newsman. But when these folks say something like "We all know," the truth is, we don't.

BETTER SERIES
Let's give credit where credit is due.

I have used this space frequently to rip various local TV news operations for dealing with frivolous subjects, particularly during ratings — and ignoring serious issues. But in the last few weeks, we've seen some pleasant changes. Among other things there was a series on truck safety that was well-done by KSDK-TV (Channel 5) and more recently a series by Donn Johnson of KTVI-TV (Channel 2) which looks at violence in local schools.

Johnson's series, which I have not seen in its entirety at this writing, took St. Louis Public Schools' administrators to task for allegedly trying to cover the problems up. And he made a contrast with schools in Webster Groves and Kirkwood, which he suggested are far more up-front about the issue and are, therefore, able to bring parents into the problems in an effort to find solutions.

INTERESTING PROMO
NBC is taking an interesting approach with commercials for its "Love and War" (8:30 p.m. Mondays on Channel 5), one of the better programs on the air. I recently saw a spot in which one of the stars suggested you watch the program rather than programs about "a plane crash in the Arctic" or a "dysfunctional family" — direct references to competing programming that night on the other networks.

I guess there is a danger of reminding viewers of something they wanted to watch on another channel, but it works for me. Ian MacBryde is an independent video producer and former television executive.

By Harry Hamm
Correspondent

Cleaning up with Academy Award attention in the 65th season for Oscar were "Howard's End" and "Unforgiven," which received nine nominations each. Films from small, independent production houses fared better than the major studio releases. The nominations were announced Tuesday morning.

All five actresses nominated in the Best Actress category appeared in non-commercial releases. In all the major categories, a number of nominated pictures fell into the low-budget, independent producer category.

Some major surprises included David Paymer's nomination for Best Supporting Actor from "Mr. Saturday Night"; Robert Downey Jr., for Best Actor from "Chaplin"; and Marissa Tomei for Best Supporting Actress in "The Piano."

"Howard's End" and "Unforgiven" had a total of nine nominations each, more than any other film. "The Crying Game" had six. "Aladdin" had five, although none was in major categories.

The "Crying Game" is the early, odds-on favorite to win Best Picture. It is currently showing at several St. Louis area theaters.

Major names missing from the nominations were Spike Lee for directing "Malcolm X," Tim Robbins for acting in "The Player," and Robert Altman for directing "A Few Good Men."

The Oscar telecast is scheduled for 8 p.m. March 29 on KTVI-TV (Channel 2).

Small-budget films capture Oscar acclaim

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Correspondent

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